REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

YEAR 1903-1904.

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PART I.

SUMMARY.

Introduction.

But for one fact, the records of the year 1903-1904 show a general growth of prosperity and progress, most welcome after nine years of varying degrees of scarcity. In all parts of the Presidency proper except Gujarát a rainfall, which was in most districts both timely and sufficient, gave ample scope for the recuperative powers of the agriculturists to assert themselves. In Gujarát itself, though the rainfall was not quite up to the normal, it was nowhere very deficient, and the large outturn of cotton which fetched an unprecedented price, raised many of the land owners to a condition approaching independence. The cultivators in Sind were equally benefited by an inundation at once high and prolonged. Throughout the Province agriculture once more resumed its proper position. There were of course areas, where, owing to excessive, untimely or deficient rainfall, crops were not so good as in the preceding year. Locusts also, though the damage they did was for the most part trifling and confined to small areas, were at times a menace to the prospects of nearly all districts. But for the year the danger passed with the gathering in of the rabi crops, and a glance at the results of any of the principal branches of administration will bear out the fact that the year was marked by a real advance in agricultural prosperity. The small, but distinct, improvement in the statistics of crime, the increased consumption of luxuries shown by the Excise and Opium returns, and the improved realisations of land revenue are sufficient proof of this fact. Industrial and commercial prosperity naturally followed as the outcome of the success of the agriculturist. The mill industry received a new lease of life owing to the large supply of cotton and the high price of manufactured goods combined with an increased demand both for home consumption and for export. The foreign trade of both the principal ports far eclipsed the record figures of the previous year, an opportune demand in Europe for cotton and wheat and other food-grains being the chief cause of the improvement. But while the material prosperity of the Province increased, the terrible scourge of plague widened the extent and intensified the virulence of its ravages, the upper portion of Sind being the only part of the Province unaffected. A decrease of 50,000 in the number of births accentuated the evil effects of a rise of 100,000 in the plague mortality and the result was an excess in the death-rate over the birth-rate which cannot fail to cause considerable anxiety.

Personnel of the Administration.

2. The office of Governor and President in Council was held by the Right Honourable Henry Stafford Baron Northcote, G.C.I.E., from the beginning of the year till September 5th. From that date Sir James Monteath, K.C.S.I., I. C. S., acted as Governor and President in Council till December 12th, when the Right Honourable the Lord Lamington, G.C.M.G., appointed by His Majesty the King-Emperor to be Governor of the Presidency, arrived in Bombay and assumed the office of Governor and President in Council, which office he continued to hold till the end of the year. The posts of Second and Third Members of Council were held throughout the year by the Honourable Sir James Monteath, K.C.S.I., I. C. S., and the Honourable Mr. Edmund McGildowny Hope Fulton, I. C. S., respectively, except during the period when Sir James Monteath was acting as Governor, during which the Honourable Mr. J. W. P. Muir-Mackenzie, I. C. S., was appointed to be a temporary Member of Council.

His Excellency the Governor's movements.

3. His Excellency Lord Northcote left Mahábaleshwar on June 8th for Poona. On September 3rd he left for Bombay and embarked for England on September 5th. His Excellency Sir James Monteath left Bombay for Poona on the same day. On September 30th he paid a visit to Bombay returning to Poona the same day. On October 12th His Excellency began a tour which included visits to Sholápur (October 12th), Bijápur (October 13th—15th), Hubli (October 15th-16th), Belgaum (October 17th-18th), Kolhápur (October 19th-20th) and Sátara (October 21st-22nd). On the 22nd he left for Mahábaleshwar. On December 1st he left Mahábaleshwar and paid a visit to Bhor on his way to Bombay, where he arrived on the morning of December 3rd. His Excellency Lord Lamington after assuming office on December 12th remained in Bombay till March 9th, with the exception of two short visits to various parts of the Thána District on March 2nd and 4th. On March 9th His Excellency proceeded to Surat where he spent two days, proceeding on March 11th to Ahmedabad. On March 15th he visited Mehmadabad, and proceeded to Kaira, arriving on March 16th at Broach. His Excellency returned to Bombay on March 17th. He left on March 22nd, arriving at Mahábaleshwar, after a trip in the Southern Maratha Country, on April 2nd.

Plague.

4. Plague was prevalent during the year ending the 31st May 1904 to a greater extent than in the preceding year, the figures being—

			Cases.	Deaths.
1903-1904	...	...	426,387	316,523
1902-1903	...	...	393,996	298,833

During the month of June 1903, the usual general subsidence of plague took place, the number of cases and deaths reported being 4,767 and 3,365 respectively. The figures rose during July (12,344 cases, 8,817 deaths), August (30,542 cases, 21,589 deaths), September (50,057 cases, 36,105 deaths) and October (66,437 cases, 49,335 deaths). A slight improvement was noticeable during November (54,709 cases, 41,659 deaths) which continued during December (42,433 cases, 32,329 deaths) and January 1904 (38,097 cases, 28,701 deaths). The figures again rose in February (39,407 cases, 29,515 deaths) and March (47,656 cases, 35,734 deaths). In the hot weather the number of cases very largely diminished, 30,617 cases and 22,084 deaths being reported in April and 9,311 cases and 7,294 deaths in May.

In Bombay City the disease was at its worst during February (2,788 cases, 2,497 deaths), March (4,655 cases, 4,128 deaths) and April (3,568 cases, 3,113 deaths).

In Karáchi plague was present throughout the year, becoming epidemic from February 1904 until the end of the year. There were 3,385 cases and 2,860 deaths in all.

The Districts and Agencies most seriously affected were Kaira, Sholápur, Sátára, Ahmednagar, Belgaum, Dhárwár, Bijápur, Káthiáwár and Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country. Plague was also present in every other district and Political Agency, except Sukkur, Lárkhána, Upper Sind Frontier, Thar and Párkar, Sávantvádi and Bhor.

The mortality in the districts of Belgaum and Dhárwár and in Kolhápur and the Southern Marátha Country was for the third year in succession very serious. In Ahmednagar, Sholápur, Bijápur and Káthiáwár it reached a much higher figure than in previous years. In Khándesh and Sátára Districts there was a considerable improvement in the plague death-rate.

The control of plague administration in the City of Surat was transferred to the Surat Municipality. In August 1903 the Medical Inspection stations were Kalyán on the G. I. P. Railway and Gadag and Poona on the Southern Mahratta Railway. In October 1903 Dhond on the G. I. P. Railway was added to the list of Inspection stations. All Railway Medical Inspection Posts in the Presidency proper were closed in May 1904. Sea inspection under the Venice Sanitary Convention Regulations continued on the same lines as in the previous years.

The incidence of the disease among Europeans was as follows:—Bombay City 23 cases, 7 deaths during the year under report as against 17 cases, 4 deaths in the previous year; in the mofussil 2 cases and 1 death as against 2 cases and no death last year.

Inoculation was performed to a greater extent than in the previous year, the distribution of the operations performed being as follows:—

Bombay City	891
Poona City and Cantonment	644
Karáchi City	402
Hyderabad Town	5
Dhárwár District	1,152
Ahmednagar District	6,348
Ahmedabad District	322
Kaira District	2,352
Bijápur District	489
Kháudesh District	2,632
Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country	55

making a total of 15,292. The number of inoculations performed during the year preceding was 9,883.

Native States.

5. The only changes of any importance in the administration of the Native States during the year were the installation of the young Chief of Sangli on the *gadi* of his State, and the investiture of the Chiefs of Jamkhandi and Mudhol with the full powers of their States.

From the agriculturists' point of view, the season under review cannot be regarded as an especially favourable one in the Native States. In all, save the Gujarat States, the rainfall was, it is true, sufficient in quantity, though in many cases it was unseasonable. Almost all the Native States were visited by swarms of locusts, which in some places did considerable damage. However, in all States, except those of Gujarát, crops were on the whole good, and even in Gujarát there was nothing that approached real scarcity. The cotton crop was good in all districts and commanded a high price, while the prices of food grains fell slightly. In Káthiáwár some progress was made in bringing land that had long been untilled again under cultivation: but the process is a slow one. In Native States, as in British districts, the mortality from plague was heavier than in the preceding year. Bhor and Sávantvádi are the only two States reported to have been altogether free from it. As a result there was a general decrease in the number of pupils attending school. Crime showed a general decrease. The aggregate gross revenue of the Native States amounted to about Rs. 462 lákhs, an improvement of nearly Rs. 70 lákhs on the figures of the previous year. All the more important States shared in this improvement. The trade of Káthiáwár and Cutch showed a decrease in imports but a satisfactory increase in exports. In the case of Káthiáwár, this increase amounted to over 100 per cent.

Great Trigonometrical Survey.

6. A party of the Survey of India continued work in connection with the Great Trigonometrical Survey in the Hyderabad, Karáchi and Thar and Párkar Districts of Sind.

Tidal Operations.

7. Tidal observations were continued at the usual stations. The Observatory at Port Albert Victor was closed and the old one at Okha Point re-established.

Revenue Surveys and Settlements.

8. An establishment of six permanent Surveyors was given to each of the divisions of the Presidency proper. Survey classes were held in all divisions for the training of Circle Inspectors. Work in connection with the survey of several inám villages was carried out in the Central Division. Revision settlement rates were introduced into 2 tálukas of Surat, 2 villages in Khándesh and several inám villages, while an original settlement was introduced in 188 villages of Khándesh.

Bombay Forest Survey.

9. The Forest Survey Party carried on operations in the districts of Thána, Násik, Khándesh and Sátára.

Land Records.

10. Work in connection with the preparation of a Record-of-Rights was begun in parts of each district in the Presidency proper. It did not progress as rapidly as expected, owing to want of experience on the part of the establishment. The quality of the work was, however, generally good.

Occupied Land.

11. In the whole Presidency and Sind the occupied area increased by nearly 300,000 acres. The improvement is noticeable in all the divisions, except the Southern Division, but is most remarkable in Sind, where a good inundation combined with increased facilities for irrigation brought under cultivation nearly 250,000 acres more than in the previous year.

Wards' and other estates under the management of Government.

12. There were 163 minors' estates under the management of the Collectors. The number of estates under the management of the Tálukdári Settlement Officer was 613. The improvement in recoveries of revenue and advances is evidence of better agricultural conditions. Some of the estates also paid considerable sums in liquidation of their debts. Government, in view of the recommendations made after special enquiry in the previous year into the condition of the Ahmedabad Tálukdárs sanctioned a 12 per cent. reduction in the Government dues as fixed at the revision settlement. There were 500 estates under the Manager of Incumbered Estates in Sind. The financial success of the management is shown by the fact that, besides contributing to the maintenance of the owners, the estates paid over Rs. 1½ lákhs in liquidation of loans and private debts and had a credit balance at the end of the year.

Legislation.

13. Five Acts were passed during the year. Four of these embodied amendments proved necessary by experience to the Ábkári Act, the Boiler Inspection Act, the Bombay District Municipal Act and the City of Bombay Municipal Act. The remaining Act was to provide for the preparation and maintenance of a Record-of-Rights in the Presidency. Besides this three Bills were passed, the most important being a Bill to amend the Khoti Settlement Act.

Police.

14. No important changes took place in the number and constitution of the Police Force during the year. The improvement in the education of the force which was noticed last year was steadily maintained and the percentage of officers and men who can read and write is now 53. Among the Bombay City Police there was a satisfactory decrease in the number of punishments, but the figures for the whole Presidency show a trifling increase. Recruiting improved slightly, but the number of vacancies at the end of the year was a little larger than at the end of the previous year. The whole force was

re-armed with Martini-Henri arms, but at the annual shooting competitions the police of some districts competed with the old Snider smooth-bores. The decrease in crime of all descriptions was maintained. The percentage of convictions obtained by the police was not quite so good as in previous years, and even under the more serious heads of crime there is only an improvement in case of murder and cognate offences, the results under other heads being a little worse than those of the previous year. Sind is chiefly responsible for the falling-off. The results obtained by the Bombay City Police show an improvement in all classes of cases. Satisfactory work was done in breaking up gangs of dacoits in Káthiáwár, Khándesh and Sátára. Stolen property decreased considerably in value, while the percentage of recoveries showed a marked improvement. The number of undetected cases decreased proportionately with the decrease in crime, but the proportion of such cases to the total number for disposal still remained high.

Vagrants.

15. There was a considerable increase in the vagrancy figures, the total number of vagrants dealt with by the work-houses during the year being 149, of whom two were females.

Wild Animals and Snakes.

16. There was a considerable decrease in the number both of human beings and of cattle reported killed by wild animals and venomous snakes. The number of wild animals reported destroyed was less by over 30 per cent. than in the previous year. The number of licenses in force for the destruction of wild animals and the protection of crops showed a small increase.

Chemical Analysis.

17. There was a further decrease in the number of chemical analyses. Poison was detected in 77 cases of suspected human poisoning and in 50 cases of suspected animal poisoning. Two hundred and eleven samples of water were examined.

Criminal Justice.

18. The number of offences reported during the year was practically the same as in the previous year. There was a large decrease under the Bombay Municipal Act and a very large increase under the Presidency Towns Police Acts. The percentage of cases returned as true did not alter materially, while the percentage of convictions to trials increased slightly. The average duration of cases was a little over 7 days, which is a marked improvement on the abnormal figures of the previous year. One reason for this was the increased use made of summary powers by Magistrates invested with them, a tendency which was, however, noticeable in the previous year. Though there were more convictions than in the previous year the sentences inflicted indicate that the crimes were of a less serious nature.

Prisons, Civil and Criminal.

19. The principal features of the prison administration were the release of 1,845 of the better behaved prisoners not classed as habitual on January 1st, 1903, in celebration of the Coronation of the King-Emperor, and a decrease of 3,460 in the number of admissions. The result was a fall of 2,414 in the average daily population combined with a percentage increase of habitual offenders among the prison population. The decrease in admissions was due to the fall in prices of food-grains, which also caused a decrease in the cost of dieting per head. Owing to the decrease in overcrowding it was possible to enforce discipline more strictly by decreasing the number of floggings and utilising punishment cells more often. A system of special marks which secure 15 days' remission for a convict who has committed no offence during the year was introduced. The cash earnings of the prisoners decreased, but this fact is explained partly by the smaller number of prisoners and partly by a good deal of the prisoners' work being paid for by adjustment with other departments. The health of the prisoners showed a marked improvement:

deaths were fewer and the daily percentage of sick smaller. In spite of precautions there was an outbreak of pneumonia in the Sind Gang, but there were no other serious epidemics.

Civil Justice.

20. The small decrease in the number of suits disposed of by the civil courts is explained by the disorganization caused by plague combined with a decrease in suits for money and moveable property caused by the debtor being in a better position to meet his liabilities owing to the more favourable season. Another cause which reduced the number of suits was the increase in conciliation agreements. There was a small but satisfactory decrease in the average duration of both contested and uncontested suits, as well as in that of appeals. Though the number of suits decreased, their aggregate value rose by Rs. 17 lákhs, and this partly accounts for the small improvement in the receipts of the Courts. This was accompanied by a satisfactory decrease in expenditure. The figures show a considerable improvement in the amount realised in execution of decrees.

Execution of Decrees of Civil Courts by the Revenue Department.

21. The work of execution of civil courts' decrees by Collectors showed an improvement, both in the number of decrees disposed of and in the prices realised for the land sold. The land fetched an average of over Rs. 38 per acre, and, in spite of the fact that this figure includes houses and alienated land, it is certain that debtors did not lose their land so cheaply as in the previous year. Another satisfactory feature of the year's work is the fact that the number of decrees settled by private agreement again showed a marked increase in proportion to the total number and that there was a considerable rise in the amount remitted by creditors.

Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act.

22. Work of all kinds, except that of Conciliators, under Act XVII of 1879 showed a tendency to decrease. Plague disorganised business and caused a rise in the average duration of both contested and uncontested suits. The sum recovered in execution of decrees, as well as the amount of voluntary payments, was, in spite of a large decrease in the number of writs for execution, larger than in the previous year.

Registration under Act III of 1877.

23. There was a further decline in the number of registrations under Act III of 1877 due in part to the effects of plague and in part to the recovery of the ryots from past bad seasons. The most noticeable feature is the large decrease both in number and value of mortgages of Rs. 100 and upwards. The increase in the number of sale-deeds was noticeable only in the Khándesh District, where it was due to special causes.

Registration under Act XVII of 1879.

24. There was a further fall in the number of registrations under Act XVII of 1879. The decrease appears under all heads and is due to the same causes as the decrease under the principal Registration Act.

Registration of Joint Stock Companies.

25. The number of Joint Stock Companies decreased but more new Companies were registered than in the previous year. The decrease in the number of Companies does not indicate any deterioration in the manufacturing industry.

District Boards.

26. Increased activity on the part of the Local Boards is indicated by a general increase in the number of meetings. Their financial position showed a slight improvement and they were able to increase their expenditure on education, medical relief, and civil works and yet to show an increased closing balance. A large number of new Boards were constituted during the year. To judge by the number of voters who exercised their right to vote, the people of the Northern Division would seem to take least interest in the work of the Boards.

Bombay Municipality.

27. A satisfactory development took place in the financial position of the Bombay Municipality. A careful revision of the assessment of properties in the City resulted in an increase of over Rs. 2½ lákhs in the amount produced by property taxes. This, combined with smaller increases, gave the Municipality an income which exceeded that of the previous year by over Rs. 3 lákhs and was the highest ever received by the Municipality at the prevailing rates of taxation. A permanent increase of Rs. 4 lákhs in income, not counterbalanced by any increase in expenditure, except in the interest on loans, is anticipated. Public health showed no improvement, deaths from both plague and small-pox increasing considerably in number. Some progress was made in works of street-improvement. Considering the serious epidemics prevalent during the year, it is satisfactory that the number of pupils in Municipal schools showed practically no decline.

District Municipalities.

28. The general prosperity of the year produced a distinct improvement in the financial position of the District Municipalities in spite of the loss of income due to the evacuation of houses caused by plague. In Sind there was a book decrease in receipts which was more than counterbalanced by a large decrease in expenditure. In all divisions of the Presidency proper increased expenditure was accompanied by increased receipts, while there was a satisfactory improvement in the aggregate closing balance. The Ahmedabad Municipality continued its drainage scheme, raising a further loan of Rs. 3 lákhs for the purpose. There was a small increase in the aggregate liabilities of the Municipalities.

Bombay Improvement Trust.

29. The Bombay Improvement Trust made good progress during the year with the Colába Reclamation Scheme, and with the leasing of the sites made available at Nágpáda. Modifications were introduced into several of the other schemes, but good progress was made in the acquisition of properties affected thereby. Some progress was also made with the provision of quarters for the police and tenements for the poor. Revenue operations showed a satisfactory credit balance. A new loan of Rs. 60 lákhs was raised, and the high rate at which it was issued is evidence of the financial stability of the Trust. The capital expenditure rose by over Rs. 10 lákhs. Thirty-nine lákhs of rupees were spent on acquisitions, and it is satisfactory to note that the increase in the proportion of cases amicably settled is maintained.

Volunteering.

30. The Volunteer Corps in the Presidency and Sind held their usual camps of exercise. A Cadet Corps was raised among the boys of the Albert High School, Panchgani.

Marine.

31. There was a trifling decrease in the number of European seamen shipped at Bombay, but a large increase in the number shipped at Aden. There was a satisfactory decrease in the number of desertions. At both ports the number of Native seamen shipped showed a large increase. The financial position of both shipping offices also showed an improvement.

Port Trusts Bombay, Karáchi and Aden.

32. The general improvement in trade produced at all the three Ports of Bombay, Karáchi and Aden fresh financial records. The improvement on the previous year's receipts was over Rs. 5 lákhs at Bombay, Rs. 4 lákhs at Karáchi, and Rs. 77,000 at Aden. The Bombay Port Trust greatly increased its expenditure on capital works and placed a contract for the construction of the new docks, which are estimated to cost in all Rs. 332 lákhs. The financial success of the Karáchi Trust was again chiefly due to the export wheat trade. Preparations for improving the railway facilities of the port were made during the year. At all three ports dredging operations were continued as usual.

Indus Conservancy Department.

33. The financial position of the Indus Conservancy Department showed a slight improvement. There is otherwise nothing noticeable in the year's administration.

Land Record staff.

34. In addition to the regular work of the department the Land Record staff did satisfactory work in the training of Circle Inspectors and supervision of the work of the Record-of-Rights in 46 tálukas. In some districts the services of Circle Inspectors were utilized to supervise the operations against locusts.

Crop area.

35. A small decrease in the net cropped area in the Presidency proper was counterbalanced by an increase in the area cropped more than once, while in Sind the favourable inundation produced an improvement of 18 per cent. in the net cropped area. There was a noticeable tendency to grow other crops in areas which have before been devoted to food crops. The low prices of food-grains caused by the sufficiency of stocks, combined with unseasonable rains, reduced the area under jowári and bájri by 18 lákhs of acres. The areas under wheat, rice, pulses and oil-seeds showed a considerable increase both in the Presidency and Sind. But the most remarkable feature of the year was the increase of over 7 lákhs of acres in the area under cotton, which, yielding as it did a large outturn, was by far the most profitable crop of the year. The small decrease in the irrigated area in the Presidency proper was due rather to the general sufficiency of the rainfall than to any deterioration in the facilities for irrigation. The increase of 22 per cent. in the irrigated area in Sind resulted chiefly in a greatly improved outturn of wheat and rice, of which grains the former was exported in large quantities to the United Kingdom in response to a very timely demand.

Crop Experiments.

36. There is nothing noticeable in connection with the crop experiments, which were carried out as usual during the year.

Agricultural Experiments.

37. Important agricultural experiments in connection with the hybridization of cotton and wheat were carried out at the various Government Farms and experimental plots during the year, the main object being to discover what kinds are most successful in the various districts. The large amount of seed distributed from the farms shows that the public believe in the practical nature of these experiments. The comparative experiments with different kinds of manures at the Mánjri Farm and elsewhere yielded only a few positive results, but work of this nature necessarily takes several years. Some useful work was done in connection with the prevention of disease in groundnuts and jowári.

Advances to cultivators.

38. With the disappearance of famine conditions the demand for tagávi decreased to such an extent that advances under the two tagávi Acts fell by nearly Rs. 28 lákhs. The decrease is most remarkable in the Deccan and Gujarát. There was a small increase in some districts of Sind, which indicates some tendency to apply to Government, rather than to the money-lender, for aid to finance the crops; but probably the result was mainly due to the refusal of the money-lenders to advance money owing to the introduction of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act.

Horse-breeding.

39. The supervision of all horse-breeding operations in the Poona and Ahmednagar Districts was handed over to the Army Remount Department on May 1st, with the result that the work of the Civil Veterinary Department in connection with horse-breeding was considerably reduced. The system of branding mares has been abolished. The revival of the Ahmedabad horse-show during the year is a satisfactory indication of a growing interest in horse-breeding.

Meteorology.

40. The arrival of the monsoon was unusually delayed and the scanty rainfall in Gujarát in June and the first half of July seemed to threaten a recrudescence of famine—a fear which was however dispelled by good rain all over the Presidency in the latter part of July. The final result of the monsoon was that the rainfall was slightly below the normal in Gujarát and the Western Deccan and somewhat in excess in other parts of the Presidency. A sharp cyclonic storm did considerable damage in Bombay and the neighbourhood on the 20th May and the three succeeding days.

Prices and Wages.

41. The marked decline in the price of food-grains did not produce any general fall in the rates of wages. The demand for labour, both skilled and unskilled, was constant, and in some parts the supply of unskilled labour was, owing to the depopulation caused by plague, at times deficient.

Forests.

42. During the year under report there was an increase in the area under the Forest Department in all Circles of the Presidency and in the Sind Circle. In the case of the latter Circle, the increase due to additional reservations was to some extent counterbalanced by the loss of over 5,000 acres through the action of the river. The protective work of the Department was less successful than in the previous year in all Circles, except in the Sind Circle, where the area traversed by fire fell considerably. Considerable progress was made in all Circles with the work of boundary demarcation. Natural reproduction benefited by the good rainfall in the Presidency and by the favourable inundation in Sind. The forest revenue showed an improvement of more than Rs. 3 lákhs, while the expenditure also increased by about one lákh.

Manufactures and Industries.

43. In response to the good season the condition of manufactures and industries of all kinds showed an improvement. This was especially the case with the cotton ginning, spinning and weaving mills, which in some parts were unable to deal with all the material brought to them. The outturn of these mills increased greatly to meet a larger demand for goods both for local consumption and for export. The match factory at Ahmedabad and the rum distillery at Poona are by their very existence an indication that capital is seeking new outlets in the direction of commercial enterprise. A considerable improvement was noticed in the condition of the weavers of Bijápur: and all artisan classes benefited by the improved demand for their wares, as well as by the cheapness of food. An entirely new field of commercial enterprise was opened up with the inauguration of the gold mines in the Dhárwár District.

Trade:

44. A return of prosperity is reflected in the trade returns of the year. Both at Bombay and at Karáchi the figures are the highest yet recorded, and while this fact is to some extent due to the increase in value of the merchandise dealt with, there can be no doubt that there was also a considerable increase in the volume of trade. Practically all branches of trade share in the increase. Even the coasting trade of the Presidency proper, the figures of which were swelled in recent years by movements of grain along the coast to meet deficiencies in local supplies, in spite of the disappearance of the *raison d'être* of this kind of trade, shows an increase of 3 per cent. in value. Another healthy symptom is that while imports and exports both show increases, by far the largest increase is in exports of Indian merchandise, the heavy exports of bájri, jowári and wheat showing that the country has resumed its proper position as the Egypt of the East. The chief feature of the year is the marked increase in wheat and cotton exports in response to the European demand.

Bombay.

To touch briefly on the trade of the three principal ports, the private foreign sea-borne trade of the Presidency proper reached the record figure of more than 100 crores of rupees in value. The most noticeable features in

the year's returns are the exports of grain, which increased by 124 per cent., of opium, which rose by 31 per cent., and of raw cotton, which by a rise of over 7 crores reached the record total of 18 crores. The importance of the cotton trade is realised only by considering this increase in exports in the light of the large increase in home consumption combined with the considerable rise in price. Imports of manufactured cotton rose by more than one crore in value, while exports also rose by 74 lákhs. The decrease in the imports of grain and in the exports of horns and manures is evidence of the disappearance of famine conditions, while the increase in imports of machinery, dyeing and tanning materials and metals points to the expansion of commercial enterprise. The revival in re-exportation of foreign merchandise is another satisfactory feature. The land trade of the Presidency showed a corresponding improvement.

Karáchi. The most important feature in the foreign trade of Karáchi, as in that of Bombay, was the large increase in the exports of wheat and raw cotton. Of the two, the wheat trade is at Karáchi the more valuable. During the year owing to bumper crops in the Punjáb as well as increased local supplies, wheat exports doubled and reached the value of 7½ crores. The improvement in cotton was one of 1¼ crores. In connection with this matter the results of the coasting trade with Bombay must be taken into consideration. They show a decline in exports of wheat to Bombay and an increase in exports of cotton. The only interesting feature of the import trade is the fact that a decline in the direct importation of foreign cotton goods was made up for by an improvement in the imports of Indian and foreign cotton goods from Bombay. The increase in the external land trade of Sind, in spite of very adverse tariff conditions, is encouraging.

Aden. The trade returns of Aden show that that port more than maintained its position as a centre of distribution. The increase in trade was partly due, it is true, to the accidental facts of the war in Somaliland and the famine in Arabia. But the improvement in all branches, except that of trade with the mainland, indicates a real increase in the volume of Indian merchandise—a fact which is borne out by the growing tendency of the rupee to oust the dollar from its pride of place as the medium of commerce both locally and on the coast.

Public Works. 45. The total outlay on public works showed a further decline from Rs. 86 lákhs to Rs. 71 lákhs. The decrease was wholly under the head of Imperial works and was due to the cessation of famine relief works. The figures of Provincial and Local Funds expenditure were both considerably in excess of those of the preceding year. A detailed account of the works both civil and military will be found in Chapter IV. The Provincial expenditure on civil buildings increased to Rs. 27 lákhs while that on communications remained at Rs. 11 lákhs.

Irrigation. 46. The total expenditure on irrigation in the Presidency and Sind amounted to Rs. 52 lákhs or Rs. 8 lákhs less than in the previous year. The decrease was confined to Sind, the expenditure in the Presidency proper showing an increase.

A detailed account of the work and revenue of the year will be found in Chapters IV and V. Of the works in the Presidency proper the Nira, Mutha and Gokák Canals are the most important. A capital outlay of Rs. 2¾ lákhs was incurred on the Mutha Canals, but this was with the object of improving the existing service and not on the extension of the system. There was a slight improvement in the percentage of revenue to expenditure on both the Nira and Mutha systems. In all divisions a satisfactory amount of work was done in

connection with the construction and maintenance of small tanks. The need for irrigation was less felt and the area irrigated showed a slight decrease. There was however a considerable increase in direct receipts on account of Imperial irrigation works of all kinds. Operations in connection with the Nira, Gokák, Krishna, Godáveri and Ghat Tank surveys were carried on during the year with results which were on the whole favourable. The total area irrigated from the Gujarát and Deccan works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept was 87,819 acres against 99,290 acres in the previous year. The gross revenue rose from Rs. 7,73,444 in 1902-1903 to Rs. 7,79,638.

In Sind the inundation was distinctly good, the water being above the fair irrigating level at the Bukkur Gauge for 54 days in all. The newly remodelled Desert Canal and the almost complete Mahiwah system worked well and the earnings of the latter were remarkable. A lot of masonry work was done on the Nasrat Canal and considerable allotments were made on lands irrigated by it and the Jamrao Canal. The high level of the river caused some trouble by silting up the canal mouths and causing breaches in the bunds.

The area irrigated by all classes of works in the Province was 3,151,807 acres against 2,625,671 acres in the previous year. The gross assessed revenue amounted to Rs. 73,33,716, of which Rs. 5,00,835 were on account of direct and Rs. 68,32,881 on account of indirect receipts, the corresponding figures for 1902-1903 being Rs. 4,67,651 and Rs. 52,29,935 respectively.

Railways.

47. During the year the mileage of railway open for traffic under the control of the Bombay Government increased by 73 miles. Of the new lines, three with a total length of 65 miles were in Gujarát and Baroda, the most important being the Baroda-Godhra Chord Railway. The construction of a line of tramway between Neral Station and Mátherán was sanctioned after the close of the year. The gross earnings of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway and the Southern Mahrátta Railway all showed an improvement; while those of the Rájputána-Málwa Railway fell by Rs. 31 lákhs to Rs. 227 lákhs. Owing to the efforts of the Southern Mahrátta Railway administration, an improvement was visible in the direct export trade of the port of Mormugao to Europe.

Finance: General.

48. The year's financial statement reflects the reviving prosperity of the Province. The gross Imperial, Provincial, and Local receipts improved by $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees to Rs. 17,57,46,516. The expenditure which totalled Rs. 9,07,15,376 was more by about 2 crores than in the previous year. There was thus an increase of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores in the surplus.

Imperial.

The increase in both receipts and expenditure was confined to the Imperial heads of finance. The improvement in receipts amounted to Rs. 367 lákhs. The largest increase was one of Rs. 267 lákhs from the Mint, which was however counterbalanced by an increase of Rs. 258 lákhs in expenditure. Of real increases, that of Rs. 104 lákhs in Land Revenue is by far the most important. The increase was due to an improvement of nearly Rs. 63 lákhs in the Imperial share of collections, combined with a decrease of Rs. 41 lákhs in the amount transferred from Imperial to Provincial Revenues. Next in importance is the increase of Rs. 31 lákhs in Opium Revenue, while the only other noticeable increases are those under Excise (Rs. 8 lákhs) and Interest (Rs. 6 lákhs). The reduction in the rate of duty caused a decline of Rs. 54 lákhs in the Salt Revenue, while the raising of the minimum taxable income produced a small fall in the receipts from Assessed Taxes. Imperial expenditure increased by Rs. 240 lákhs, but the increase is merely nominal, being due to the Mint transactions already mentioned. In reality, the expenditure was less than in the

previous year, the chief items of decrease being one of Rs. 4 lákhs under Refunds and one of Rs. 16 lákhs under Famine.

Provincial. Provincial Revenue declined by Rs. 14 lákhs. The decrease was due to a falling off of Rs. 25 lákhs in Land Revenue caused mainly by the abovementioned decrease in contributions from Imperial Revenues, partially counterbalanced by an improvement in Land Revenue receipts. All the other important heads of Revenue, such as Stamps, Excise, Forests and Interest, showed considerable increases. There was a corresponding decrease of Rs. 37 lákhs in Provincial expenditure. The only heads showing increases of over one lákh of rupees were the heads of "Police" and "Superannuation." The most important fluctuation was a decrease of Rs. 25 lákhs under the head of "Miscellaneous", which was due to the large remissions of Tagái and the charges on account of Coronation celebrations in the previous year. Another large decrease was one of Rs. 4 lákhs under Medical Charges, which was due to diminished expenditure on Plague.

Mint. 49. The principal items of interest in the work of the Mint during the year were the re-coinage into Government rupees of the Silver currencies of the Native States of Indore, Sirohi and Khairpur and the large re-coinage of British and Mexican dollars into Straits Settlements dollars, on behalf of the Colonial Secretary, Singapore. The number of rupees struck increased from six to nine crores. The value of gold bullion and coin tendered by the public in exchange for rupees showed a further rise of Rs. 134 lákhs.

Currency: Presidency Circle. 50. The returns of the Currency Office, like those of all other branches of Administration, are evidence of the financial prosperity of the year. There was a further large increase of nearly 100 lákhs in the average monthly net circulation of notes. Increased demand caused an increase of Rs. 5 lákhs in value in the issues of small silver coin, combined with a decrease of nearly the same amount in the small silver coin received at the Currency Office. There was a considerable increase in the issues to the public of sovereigns and half-sovereigns. The only unsatisfactory feature is that forgeries of currency notes seem to be increasing in number and to be growing more difficult to detect.

Karáchi Circle. Though there was a small decrease in the value of notes in the Karáchi Circle, this decrease was chiefly due to the issue of fewer notes for Rs. 10,000, and the actual number of notes in circulation increased considerably. The large increase in the value of Foreign Circle notes encashed seems to indicate an expansion in commercial dealings with other parts of India.

Land Revenue. 51. For the revenue year 1903-1904, the Land Revenue demand amounted to Rs. 4,33,33,960 and the collections to Rs. 3,94,56,670. The figures show an increase in collections of Rs. 23,94,777 over those of the previous year. The rise in the percentage of total collections to the demand combined with the decrease in the number of distraints from 2,222 to 1,831 indicates that there was less difficulty in collecting this revenue than in the previous year.

Sea Customs. 52. The general increase in the volume of import trade during the year was not without its effect on the Customs receipts, which showed a small net increase both at Bombay and Karáchi. The Customs returns do not furnish any criterion for estimating the export trade, as the only export duty is one on rice.

Bombay. The net revenue of the Bombay Customs House rose by over Rs. 1 lákh to Rs. 174 lákhs. Import duties, which constitute 97 per cent. of the whole net

Imperial revenue, rose by over Rs. 2 lákhs. There was a small increase in the Provincial receipts. Refunds showed a rise of over Rs. 2 lákhs, those on sugar alone amounting to Rs. 3 lákhs. There was a decrease in refunds of Import duty on re-exportation, but this decrease was merely an account one, as this branch of trade showed a considerable revival. Bonding transactions showed a large decrease in value, chiefly owing to a fall in sugar and kerosine oil. The Customs receipts of other ports in the Presidency proper showed a corresponding improvement.

Karáchi and Sind Ports.

The net revenue of the Customs Department in Sind was larger by 4 per cent. than that of the previous year. There was a very large decrease in refunds of sugar duties. Both import and export duties contribute to the increase in the net receipts, which reached a total of over Rs. 33½ lákhs.

Land Customs.

53. The important feature of the land Customs administration during the year was the establishment of a Customs frontier against Káthiáwár from January 1st, 1904. The total revenue from Land Customs nearly doubled owing to increased receipts on the Portuguese frontiers due to the better season. The receipts on the Káthiáwár frontier were nearly Rs. 6,000 during the first three months.

Opium: Presidency.

54. During the year a rumoured failure of the Chinese opium crop created a large demand for Málwa opium for export to China, with the result that imports from the States to Bombay and exports from Bombay to China rose very considerably and reached a total far above the average of the past decade. The average price of opium, especially that of old opium, improved. The financial result was an increase of over Rs. 31 lákhs in the Imperial revenue. As an item of excise the chief point of interest in connection with opium is the apparent result of the new separate shop system. In the selection districts, where the farming of the dispensing shops is let to a single contractor, the retail price being fixed by Government, there was a general increase in the sales of opium, amounting in four districts to over 1,000 lbs. In districts where the separate shop system is in force, and where in consequence there is no fixed maximum price, the high prices caused by the dealers resulted in a general decrease in consumption. The result of the sales in all British districts was an increase of 8,000 lbs., a fact which is due to the revival of prosperity. There was also a considerable increase in the issues to Native States and in the sales of locally produced opium in Baroda. The total excise opium receipts rose by nearly Rs. 1 lákh.

Sind.

In Sind the separate shop system for the sale of opium has not yet been introduced. The consumption and Excise revenue showed a slight increase during the year.

Salt: Presidency Proper.

55. Several events of interest occurred in connection with the administration of the Salt Dapartment. At the end of the previous year the duty had been reduced from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 2 per maund and it was anticipated that this would make salt considerably cheaper. This effect was actually produced in the case of Baragra salt, but the unseasonable rain in May 1903 diminished the outturn of sea salt by 17 lákhs of maunds or about 22 per cent., with the result that there was at the time some fear of a salt famine. The crisis was tided over by giving increased facilities for manufacture and the favourable manufacturing season has since replenished the stocks to some extent. An attempt was made to introduce the use of Baragra salt into districts which have been accustomed to use sea salt and depôts were opened at Bombay, Poona and Sholápur: but in spite of the smaller price of the

natural salt, the sales were trifling and the experiment had to be abandoned. The reduction in duty lowered the price of sea salt only in those districts where Baragra salt had sufficient hold on the people's taste to compete with it. Exports of Baragra salt to Baroda and parts of India outside the Presidency did, however, show a satisfactory increase. The consumption per head improved slightly in Gujarát and fell off slightly in the rest of the Presidency. The reduction in duty, combined with a decrease in the total amount issued, reduced the total revenue by nearly Rs. 53 lákhs.

Sind. In Sind also there was a shortage in the stocks in hand owing to the cyclone of 1902; but still the price fell by a little more than the amount of the reduction in the duty. It is curious that, in spite of this and in spite of the agricultural prosperity of the year, the consumption per head decreased slightly. The reduction in the duty reduced the total receipts by about Rs. 1½ lákhs.

Aden. The amount of salt produced in Aden showed a slight improvement, while the exports from the Italian Salt Works at Shaikh Othman rose by 25,000 tons after the heavy fall of the previous year.

Excise: Presidency. 56. The A'bkári returns for the year indicate an increased ability on the part of the people to purchase the luxuries to which they are accustomed. The consumption of all articles liable to excise duty showed an increase, which was very marked in the case of the two most important—country spirit and toddy. The separate shop system for the sale of country liquor was introduced into three more districts—in the case of one, Khándesh, in a slightly modified form. In this district there was a large increase in consumption; but in the other two districts the new system produced the same result as that produced in Belgaum in the previous year, namely, a considerable decrease in consumption. In these districts the place of country liquor was to some extent taken by cheap foreign spirits and by rum distilled near Poona and excised at tariff rates. The total result for all British districts was an increase of 2½ lákhs of gallons in the consumption of country liquor, one of 7 lákhs of gallons in that of toddy and one of 25,000 gallons in that of Poona rum. There was a corresponding increase of more than Rs. 11 lákhs in the total Excise Revenue. An enlargement of the Preventive Establishment resulted in an increase in the number of detected offences against the A'bkári law.

Sind. In Sind there were no noticeable fluctuations in the consumption of excise articles, except in that of bháng and charas, which increased considerably. The A'bkári revenue was practically the same as in the previous year.

Aden. The A'bkári receipts at Aden and Perim showed a slight improvement.

Cotton Duties. 57. The prosperity of the cotton-weaving industry during the year under report is shown by a small increase in the number of mills combined with a rise of about 12 per cent. in the amount of woven goods produced. There was a slight decrease in the outturn of yarn, which was due to the fact that the price of that article did not make the manufacture of it as profitable as the manufacture of cotton goods. The net revenue under the Cotton Duties Act improved by Rs. 1¾ lákhs.

Stamps. 58. There was an increase of Rs. 1½ lákhs in the gross receipts of the Stamps Department. The increase is visible in the receipts from each and every sub-head of revenue, and clearly reflects the return of commercial and agricultural prosperity.

Income Tax. 59. The raising of the minimum amount of taxable income to Rs. 1,000 explains the decrease of Rs. 4 lákhs in the final demand on account of income tax. The fall of nearly Rs. 3 lákhs in the collections was less than was

anticipated—a fact which may be mainly attributed to a gradual return to normal prosperity after the famine, which resulted in the taxation of some incomes which were formerly assessed at less than Rs. 1,500 as well as in enhanced assessments on incomes above the new limit of exemption.

Local Funds.

60. Among incorporated Local Funds, the Government Central Book Depôt Fund and the Steam Boiler Inspection Fund bettered their financial position during the year, while that of the Sind Village Officers' Cess Fund was slightly worse. Nearly all the Excluded Local Funds showed increased closing balances, the only exception being the Mounted Police Funds, in the case of which the decrease was more than made up by investments during the year. The transfer of the Educational Funds to private Trustees was continued.

Births and Deaths.

61. The vital statistics of the year 1903 disclose two lamentable facts—the first is a large increase in the plague mortality, and the second is a large decrease in the birth-rate. Whether these two facts are in any way connected seems doubtful, as several of the worst plague-affected districts actually show improved birth-rates; but plague is doubtless one of the reasons for the increase in infant mortality which rose to the excessive figure of over 210 deaths per 1,000 births in the whole Presidency, the ratio being 535 deaths per 1,000 births in the City of Bombay. The mortality from other causes than plague has remained nearly constant in the last three years. The ratio of deaths from fever showed a slight improvement. There was a slight outbreak of small-pox, but there were few cases outside Bombay City, and the mortality from it was well below the average. There were fewer deaths from cholera than in any year since 1886. These minor improvements, however, afford little consolation in face of the serious decrease in the birth-rate and the loss of nearly a lakh of lives more than in the previous year, from plague.

Emigration and Immigration.

62. The completion of the Uganda Railway and the consequent cessation of the demand for Indian labour in that part of Africa combined with the legislative measures adopted by the South African Government to exclude undesirable immigrants practically put an end to emigration from the ports of Bombay and Karáchi. Within the Presidency and to and from beyond its borders the usual temporary migrations took place: but cases, where local scarcity was the compelling influence, were very few.

Medical Relief.

63. The number of medical institutions in the Presidency and Sind increased slightly during the year and the accommodation for in-door patients considerably. There was, however, a small falling off in the actual number of in-door patients treated. The small decrease in the number of patients suffering from malarial fever, following on the large decrease of the previous year, has possibly some connection with the efforts made to place quinine within the reach of all classes. There was a further increase both in the receipts and the expenditure of the medical institutions.

Lunatic Asylums.

64. The seven lunatic asylums in the Presidency and Sind had slightly fewer inmates than in the previous year. There was a satisfactory improvement in the percentages of sickness and deaths.

Sanitation.

65. The chief point of interest in connection with the improvement of sanitation during the year was the large expenditure incurred by the Ahmedabad Municipality on its new drainage scheme. The abolition of 37 Sanitary Committees in the Poona District, rendered necessary by the apathy of the inhabitants, is not an encouraging feature. The officers of the Sanitary Department appear, however, to have shown increased energy in the direction of village inspection.

Vaccination.

66. The vaccination returns for the year show an increase in the number of primary vaccinations and a decrease in the number of revaccinations. There was a rise in the percentage of children successfully vaccinated compared with the number available. There was some opposition to vaccination in Sind, while in the rest of the Presidency vaccination was carried on with more difficulty owing to the plague epidemic.

Veterinary.

67. There was a very serious increase both in the number of attacks and in the percentage of deaths from cattle disease during the year. The disease of "Black quarter" was rife throughout the Presidency, while attacks of "foot and mouth" disease alone were nearly as many as the total of attacks of all diseases in the previous year. Increased advantage was taken of the veterinary dispensaries. There was a large increase in the number of horses imported from Australia and Arabia.

Education.

68. The effects of plague on education were probably more serious than on any other department of administration. On March 31st, nearly 1,100 schools with over 70,000 pupils on their rolls were closed on account of plague. In the previous year the number of pupils excluded on account of schools being closed for plague was 40,000. The returns for the year under report show a total decrease of a little over 20,000 in the number of pupils attending educational institutions. It appears therefore that, but for precautionary measures against plague, there would have been a slight improvement in the attendance at educational institutions to record. Even the apparent decrease in attendance is almost confined to primary schools. The number of pupils increased at both Professional and Arts Colleges, noticeably in the Wilson and Fergusson Colleges and the Bombay Law School. The decrease in the attendance at secondary schools was insignificant. The number of candidates for Matriculation and the University School Final Examination was slightly smaller, but the percentage of successful candidates improved. The remarkable difference between the percentage of success obtained by candidates from schools and that obtained by those trained privately indicates the relative superiority of the school training. The growing popularity of the rural standards in primary schools is most noticeable. Another feature of the year is the tendency to substitute a somewhat superficial education in English for the study of the higher vernacular standards. Technical education as a whole did not show any marked improvement; but the large increase in the number of pupils, both male and female, attending training schools is very satisfactory, as showing a growing demand for qualified teachers. A slight improvement in the higher branches, combined with a falling off in the number of pupils in the primary stage, is visible in the case of both female education and Mahomedan education. Special efforts were made in Thána and Surat to popularize education among aboriginal and hill tribes by opening new schools with masters whose caste does not prevent them being in touch with their pupils. The figures show a considerable increase in the number of pupils of depressed classes being educated in all Divisions, but this is in a great measure attributable to more accurate registration. Good progress was made by the schools for various special classes in Káthiáwár and by all schools in the Native States of North Gujarát. The important work of revising the Departmental vernacular text-books was inaugurated during the year.

Yerávda Reformatory School.

69. The completion of a new dormitory made it possible to raise the number of boys at the Yerávda Reformatory School to 140. The conduct of the boys in the School and of discharged pupils was good, while there was a distinct improvement in health. Arrangements have been made for licensing the boys, while at School, to private employers.

70. The literary productions of the year were slightly fewer in number than those of the previous year. With one or two exceptions they did not display any marked literary ability. Literature.

71. The number of native newspapers and periodicals in circulation increased by thirteen. The retirement of Lord Northcote furnished many of the newspapers with an opportunity for appreciative articles on the sympathy which he had always shown in the troubles and aspirations of the people. The probable results of the Police Commission and the Irrigation Commission continued to be discussed with the liveliest interest and the reductions in taxation announced in the Budget were appreciated. The Official Secrets Bill and the Indian Universities Bill were freely criticised; while the revision of famine policy and the enhancement of the educational grants were gratefully acknowledged by most papers. Native Press.

72. Beyond the necessary repairs to certain ancient buildings, there was little work of interest in connection with the archæological survey done in the Presidency during the year. Archæology.

73. The establishment of the Church of England was strengthened by the addition of two new chaplains; there was no change in that of the Church of Scotland. Ecclesiastical.

74. The transactions of the Stationery Department were not quite so large as in the preceding year. Stationery.

75. During the year the Government Printing Presses at Bombay and Karáchi both worked with improved financial results. Government Printing Press.

76. The accounts of the Photozincographic Office at Poona show an improvement in cash receipts due to an increase in the amount of unofficial work done during the year. Government Photozincographic Office.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF BOMBAY, 1903-1904.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

For—

AREA, ASPECT, CLIMATE, PRODUCTS.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY.

DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1901-1902, PART II PAGES 1—78.

Tributary States.

In the following review of the administration of the Native States under the political supervision of the Government of Bombay, the States are arranged in groups according to their geographical position. The North Gujarát States, forming the most important group, lie mostly to the north of the Narbada and comprise an area more than twice as large as that of all the remaining States. The South Gujarát States, which lie to the South of the Tápti, are comparatively unimportant. The Marátha States fall into four groups. The North and South Konkan groups lie below the ghâts to the north and south of Bombay respectively. The Deccan and Southern Marátha Country States are situated in the southern and eastern portions of the Deccan plateau. The Province of Sind contains one State. The Settlement at Aden, including Perim, directly administered by the Government of Bombay, is also included in this review.

The following statement shows the area, the population according to the census of 1901, and the gross revenue in 1903-1904 of the Agencies referred to:—

Name.	Area in square miles.	Population according to the Census of 1901.	Gross Revenue.
			Rs.
GROUP 1—NORTH GUJARÁT—			
(1) Cutch	7,616	488,022	19,00,000
(2) Káthiáwár	20,882	2,329,196	1,62,91,308
(3) Pálanpur	8,000	467,271	13,12,356
(4) Mahi Kántha Agency	3,124	361,545	11,41,505
(5) Rewa Kántha do.	4,980	479,065	21,06,905
(6) Cambay	350	75,225	5,54,263
GROUP 2—SOUTH GUJARÁT—			
(1) Dharampur	961	161,342	12,00,147
Bánsda			
Sachin			
(2) Dangs	660	18,633	42,990
GROUP 3—NORTH KONKAN, NA'SIK AND THÁNA—			
(1) Surgána	360	11,532	19,384
(2) Jawhár	310	47,538	1,73,435
GROUP 4—SOUTH KONKAN AND DHA'RWA'R—			
(1) Janjira	377	97,311	5,03,678
(2) Sávantvádi	926	217,732	4,33,133
(3) Savanúr	70	18,446	88,452
GROUP 5—DECCAN, SA'TA'RA JA'GHIRS—			
(1) Akalkot	498	82,047	4,57,352
(2) Bhor	925	137,268	3,68,768
(3) Aundh	447	63,921	2,30,729
(4) Phaltan	397	45,739	2,00,437
(5) Jath and Daphlápur	980	68,865	3,52,090
GROUP 6—SOUTHERN MARA'THA COUNTRY STATES—			
(1) Kolhápur	2,855	910,011	54,51,719
(2) Other States	3,022	626,084	45,84,069
GROUP 7—SIND—			
Khairpur	6,050	199,313	8,35,748
GROUP 8—ADEN	80	43,974	80,21,882
Grand Total ...	63,870	6,950,080	4,62,70,350

TRIBUTARY STATES.
Cutch and Káthiáwár.

I—NORTH GUJARAT.

1.—CUTCH.

Ruling Chief—His Highness Maharajadhiraj Mirza Maha Rao Shri Sir Khengarji Savai Bahádur, G.C.I.E.; *Residence*—Bhuj; *Caste*—Jadeja Rajput, Hindu; *Age*—37 years; Educated privately at Bhuj; *Has male heirs.*

Area—7,616 square miles (exclusive of the Runn, 9,000 square miles which belongs to His Highness the Rao); *Population* (1901)—488,022; *Tribute to the British Government*—Rs. 2,00,000 (sicca) for the maintenance of a British subsidiary force; *Gross Revenue* (about)—Rs. 19,00,000; *Military Force* (with Police)—1,097; *Principal Articles of Production*—Wheat, bájri, and other grains of inferior quality, cotton; *Manufactures*—Silver articles, coarse cotton cloth, silk stuffs, alum and saltpetre.

Season and Crops. 1. Rainfall and crops were good, especially the cotton crop. Some damage was done by locusts.

Legislation. 2. Penal clauses regarding the forgery of promissory and currency notes and counterfeiting King's coin were added to the Cutch Criminal Procedure Code.

Police. 3. The police numbered 244 mounted and 572 foot. Fifteen policemen were temporarily employed on plague duty in Bhuj City. The total cost rose by about Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 1,43,454. Offences reported to the police numbered 1,001 or 284 less than in the previous year. 813 cases were sent for trial and convictions obtained in nearly 86 per cent. of the cases. The value of stolen property was Rs. 56,040 or about Rs. 3,000 less than in the previous year, but the percentage of recoveries fell from 65 to 49 per cent. Serious crime showed a decrease.

Criminal Justice. 4. The 45 criminal courts dealt with 2,125 cases affecting 3,436 persons and convicted 46 per cent. as against 56 per cent. in the previous year. There were 44 appeals and in the case of 14 persons the sentences were reversed. Thirteen persons were extradited from Cutch State and extradition of 26 persons was obtained from other States.

Prisons. 5. The number of persons confined in the 12 prisons fell by nearly 400 to 1,855, and the cost by over Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 23,276.

Civil Justice. 6. The 51 civil courts disposed of 4,259 cases out of 4,471 on the files, the figures for the preceding year being 3,121 and 3,306 respectively. Out of 682 appeals for disposal 374 were disposed of and in about 50 per cent. of cases the decisions of the lower Courts were confirmed.

Registration. 7. The number of documents registered rose by nearly 200 to 1,932 but the fees decreased by over Rs. 300 to Rs. 8,767.

Municipalities. 8. The aggregate income and expenditure of the 7 municipalities fell from Rs. 30,674 and Rs. 37,554 to Rs. 28,144 and Rs. 34,827 respectively.

Trade and Customs. 9. The value of imports fell by about 9 lákhs to Rs. 90,51,127 while that of exports rose by 3¾ lákhs to Rs. 13,89,374. Customs receipts decreased by Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 8,18,486. The cotton presses were fully occupied during the year.

Public Works. 10. The expenditure on public works fell from Rs. 3,18,869 to Rs. 1,77,118. Of this over one lákh was spent towards the completion of the Anjar-Tuna Light Railway. The railway bridges on the Sang river were completed.

Revenue and Finance. 11. The revenue rose by 2¼ lákhs to Rs. 19,46,579, land revenue contributing two lákhs to the increase. Still the closing balance of Rs. 16,42,818 was two lákhs less than the opening balance.

Vital Statistics. 12. In the khalsa portion of the province the births and deaths, exclusive of deaths in plague-affected towns and villages, were 6,852 and 8,689 as against 6,871 and 12,536 in the previous year. Plague attacks and deaths numbered 2,461 and 2,030 against 990 and 886 respectively.

Medical Relief. 13. The number of patients treated at the medical institutions rose from 89,480 to 100,861, while the cost fell by over Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 33,996. Vaccinations were in number 15,442 or about the same as in the previous year.

Education. 14. Owing to plague the number of pupils attending the 129 State schools fell from 7,220 to 5,794; the number of private schools was 128 with 5,064 pupils as against 129 with 5,344 in the previous year. Expenditure rose by Rs. 1,400 to Rs. 62,588. There were 98 Darbári scholarships, of which 57 were available for females. The number of pupils in the Bhuj School of Art rose by 26 to 156. A police school was opened during the year.

Miscellaneous. 15. The nine Darbári stallions covered 73 mares of which 14 foaled.

There were 68 breaches of the infanticide rules punished by fines amounting to Rs. 236.

The number of marriages of Girássia girls rose from 129 to 216.

2.—KATHIAWAR.

Area—20,882 square miles; *Population*—2,329,196; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 1,62,91,308; *Tribute to British Government and His Highness the Gáekwár of Baroda*—Rs. 8,74,891; *Military Force*—2,362; *Principal Articles of Production*—Grain, cotton, stone and Akik pebbles, etc.; *Manufactures*—Silk cloth, gold and silver lace, carpets, copper and brass ware, etc.

Chief Events. 1. There was an encounter near Chuda between a gang of escaped Miana convicts from the Petlád Jail and a combination of the Agency and Chuda State Police. Swords of honour and money and other rewards were distributed for good services in connection with the event. The number of Thanas was reduced from 16 to 12 and the Thanadars divided into three grades. Steady progress is being made towards bringing under cultivation Padtar (uncultivated) land throughout the province.

Season and Crops. 2. Rainfall was normal and all crops, especially wheat and cotton, were good.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Káthiáwár and Pálanpur Agency.*

Police and Criminal Justice.

3. The total strength of the Agency Police was 998 including the Vasavad Thana Police, and the cost of their maintenance was Rs. 2,43,890 during the year of report. The percentage of persons convicted to those disposed of by trial was, during the year under report, 73·32 in the Agency. Property of the value of Rs. 18,256 was stolen, while the percentage of recovery was 56·35 in the Agency Jurisdiction. The Agency Courts disposed of 905 original criminal cases and 27 appeals. So far as information is forthcoming, the Police in employ of the States numbered 5,376 and cost Rs. 7,72,845. They arrested 4,829 persons, of whom 2,753 were convicted. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 81,955 and the percentage of recoveries was 53·5; in all 11,322 criminal cases were disposed of by the State's Courts, and of these 4,382 cases ended in conviction.

Civil Justice.

4. The Agency Courts decided 2,427 original civil cases, 49 civil appeals and 87 Political appeals. No encumbered estate claim was decided in the year under report. The Courts of the Jurisdictional Sates disposed of 26,238 cases.

Registration.

5. The number of documents registered during the year was 254 as against 216 in 1902-03, and the value of the property affected by them was Rs. 2,89,043 as against Rs. 2,22,003.

Trade.

6. Exports increased from Rs. 89,59,751 to Rs. 1,96,93,070 and imports slightly receded from Rs. 2,27,10,810 to Rs. 1,84,48,290.

Public Works.

7. The Agency Engineer spent Rs. 94,527 on public works in the Agency and the Native States spent Rs. 12,79,948 as against Rs. 15,21,100 in the previous year.

Tribute.

8. The total demand on account of tribute including outstandings was Rs. 15,27,511 at the end of the year.

Local Funds.

9. The receipts and expenditure of the consolidated funds amounted to Rs. 2,12,328 and Rs. 1,78,535, respectively, as against Rs. 1,72,136 and Rs. 1,64,596 in 1902-1903.

Medical.

10. The number of Hospitals and Dispensaries under the supervision of the Agency Surgeon is 21. 103,241 patients were treated at a cost of Rs. 45,302-2-7. The Rasulkhanji Hospital for woman treated 200 in-patients and 2,226 out-patients. In the States there were 103 dispensaries which treated 627,272 patients at a cost of Rs. 2,37,355. The total number of primary and secondary vaccinations rose from 53,925 to 54,157.

Education.

11. The Educational Institutions numbered 1,200 with 80,041 scholars against 1,207 with 84,245 scholars in the previous year. A scheme for raising and broadening the standard of teaching in the Rajkumar College was under consideration and was brought into operation shortly after the close of the year. The total expenditure incurred on public instruction was Rs. 8,28,549.

Horse-breeding.

12. Nine States in Káthiáwár have in their paddocks 56 stallions which covered 791 mares.

Railways.

13. The mileage of open line remained the same during the year under report. The conversion of the Morvi Railway into the metre gauge is in progress and will shortly be completed. The gross earnings rose from Rs. 19,90,047 to Rs. 22,51,922 and the working expenses fell from Rs. 11,94,094 to Rs. 11,35,411. The dividends varied from 6·20 per cent. on the Morvi Railway to 2 per cent. on the Dhrangadhra line.

3.—PALANPUR AGENCY.

Ruling Chiefs.	*Residence.*	*Caste.*	*Age.*	*Where educated.*	*Heirs.*
His Highness Sir Sher Mahamad Khanji Lohani, G.C.I.E.	Pálanpur ...	Pathan Mahomedan.	52	At Pálanpur ...	Has male heir.
His Highness Mahamad Sher Khanji.	Rádhanpur ...	Do. ...	18	Rájkumár College, Rájkot, and now under a private tutor.	Has no male heir.

Area—8,000 square miles; *Population* (1901)—467,271; *Gross Revenue* (approximately)—12½ lákhs; *Tribute to His Highness the Gáekwár*—Rs. 59,590; *Military Force*—861; *Principal Articles of Production*—Wheat, rice, jowári, bájri, cotton, gram, sarsav and mug.

General.

1. The Agency comprises two first class States—Pálanpur and Rádhanpur (the latter of which is under British management during the minority of the Nawab), and certain minor States and petty tálukas.

Chief Events.

2. The marriage of the minor Nawáb of Rádhanpur was celebrated in April 1903 at a cost of Rs. 30,000. A daughter was born to him in February 1904 but died in April. The minor Nawáb has left Rájkumár College and is now under the charge of an European tutor.

Relations with other States.

3. Some disturbances connected with alleged encroachments of land and petty thefts of cattle and sheep occurred on the Pálanpur-Sirohi border, but nothing serious took place.

Season and Crops.

4. Crops were not good owing to the premature cessation of rain and the visitation of large swarms of locusts. Cotton was damaged by frost.

Revenue and Finance.

5. The gross revenue of the Pálanpur, Rádhanpur, Tharád and Váv States rose from Rs. 7,59,177 to Rs. 15,39,221. This includes a loan of Rs. 3,50,000 taken by Pálanpur from Government. The gross expenditure of the same States was Rs. 12,98,851 against Rs. 12,38,842 and includes Rs. 3,64,658 paid by Pálanpur in payment of debt.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Pálanpur Agency and Mahi Kántha.*

Police. 6. The total strength of the Police, including 2,414 Irregular Police, was 4,067 and the cost Rs. 2,49,131. Offences reported to the Police numbered 1,105 against 1,667 and arrests 1,210 against 2,569. The percentage of convictions to arrests was 62 against 66. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 28,698 and 42·5 per cent. was recovered as against 34·2 in the previous year.

Criminal Justice. 7. The Criminal Courts dealt with 2,603 persons and convicted 1,184 of them. There were 116 criminal appeals and in more than 50 per cent. of the total the sentences were reversed or modified.

Jails. 8. The twelve jails and lock-ups held a daily average number of 287 prisoners as against 426 in 1902-1903. The total cost was reduced from Rs. 19,203 to Rs. 12,874.

Civil Justice. 9. Cases for disposal numbered 3,927 against 2,281. Though 3,128 were disposed of against 1,670, arrears increased to 799. One hundred and ninety-eight civil appeals were disposed of, leaving a balance of 42.

Registration. 10. Registration fees fell from Rs. 169 to Rs. 81.

Public Works. 11. Expenditure on Public Works dropped from Rs. 52,721 to Rs. 34,887.

Local Funds. 12. The total Local Fund balance increased slightly to Rs. 1,12,224. The condition of all save the General Fund was satisfactory.

Medical Relief. 13. The 14 dispensaries had an average daily attendance of 550 as against one of 623. They cost Rs. 27,074 or about Rs. 1,800 less than in 1902-1903. Vaccinations numbered 11,797 against 11,862.

Education. 14. The 68 schools had a daily average of 2,648 scholars against one of 2,703 in the previous year.

4.—MAHI KANTHA.

Ruling Chief—His Highness Major-General Sir Partapsingji, G.C.S.I., K.C.B., Maharaja of I'dar; *Residence*—Ahmednagar; *Caste*—Rathod Rajput, Hindu; *Age*—58 years; Educated privately; *Heirs*—Has adopted heir.

Area—3,124 square miles; *Population*—361,545; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 11,41,505; *Tribute to His Highness the Gáekwár of Baroda*—Idar Rs. 30,340; sixty-two small States—Rs. 99,191; *Principal Articles of Production*—Wheat, gram, cotton and all common grains, marble and chalk quarries; *Manufactures*—dyed cloth.

General. 1. The Agency consists of the first class State of I'dar and sixty-two smaller States. Some of the latter pay tribute to I'dar and the British Government as well as to His Highness the Gáekwár, while some are under British management.

Principal Events. 2. His Highness Sir Partapsingji has been granted an annuity of Rs. 30,000 by the Jodhpur Darbár. A special darbár was held at Ahmednagar on the birthday of His Majesty the King-Emperor at which portraits of their Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress were presented to His Highness the Mahárája of I'dar. Rules regulating the manufacture, import, export and transport of arms and ammunition in the Agency district were introduced.

Frontier Questions. 3. There was an affray in October on the I'dar-Márwár border in which an outpost of the Meywár Bhil Corps had to fire on the Bhils of Semalia (I'dar). A punitive post was in consequence imposed on Semalia. The I'dar-Dungarpur boundary line was settled and some progress was made with the settlement of the I'dar-Baroda boundary.

Three border courts were held during the year.

Season and Crops. 4. In spite of considerable damage done by locusts, a good rainfall gave early crops of 8 to 10 annas and winter crops of 12 annas.

Police. 5. The strength of the stipendiary police was—Agency Police 514, Police of I'dar 640, Police of smaller States 450; the total being 1,604, of whom 296 were mounted. The total strength was about the same as in the previous year, but the cost rose by nearly Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 2,04,427. The number of offences reported showed a further large drop from 776 to 528. The percentage of accused convicted to those arrested fell from 65 to 52. Stolen property fell in value from Rs. 52,203 to Rs. 17,647. The percentage of recoveries decreased in the Agency from 92 to 78 and rose from 16 to 24 in the States.

Criminal Justice. 6. The Magistracy dealt with 1,544 persons or 189 less than in the previous year and convicted 551 of them. No death sentence was passed. The Political Agent disposed of 14 appeals, in 8 of which the sentences were confirmed.

Prisons. 7. Jails and lock-ups numbered 39 as in the previous year. The daily average population was 210 as against 243. Exclusive of I'dar jails the average cost per head rose from Rs. 69 to Rs. 74.

Civil Justice. 8. The number of Civil Courts remained at 40. They disposed of 2,970 suits, leaving arrears of 458. The Agency appellate courts disposed of 39 out of 90 appeals, while the I'dar appellate courts disposed of 13 out of 24. Out of 3,233 applications for execution, 2,362 were disposed of.

Registration. 9. Documents registered numbered 147 and fees received were Rs. 781, both figures showing a small decrease.

Public Works. 10. I'dar State spent Rs. 36,829 on public works as against Rs. 11,574. The other States undertook nothing save very minor works.

Opium. 11. The quantity of opium issued rose to 3,248 lbs.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Rewa Kántha and Cambay.*

12. The closing balance of the local funds was Rs. 1,88,407, or nearly Rs. 12,000 more than at the end of the last year. Receipts rose by Rs. 13,000 to Rs. 1,08,443. Local Funds.

13. The number of births and deaths was 9,798 and 7,434 against 8,309 and 7,828 in 1902-1903 respectively. In spite of plague the figures are encouraging. Vaccinations increased by over 2,000 to 10,044. Vital Statistics.

14. Three new dispensaries were opened in I'dar and a travelling dispensary closed. The total number was thus 19. They treated 59,228 patients at a cost of Rs. 22,605 against 42,817 at a cost of Rs. 18,401 in 1902-1903. Medical Relief.

15. The 117 schools taught 6,315 pupils at a cost of Rs. 30,189 or about 100 pupils less than in the previous year at nearly Rs. 3,000 less cost. One of the five Bhil Mission Schools was closed and the attendance at the remaining four fell to 117. There were 27 Kumars on the rolls of the Scott College at the end of the year. In the annual examination 79 per cent. of these passed in all subjects. Education.

5.—REWA KANTHA.

Ruling Chiefs.	*Residence.*	*Caste.*	*Age.*	*Where educated.*	*Heirs.*
His Highness Maharana Shri Chhatrasingji.	Rájpipla ...	Gohel Rajput, Hindu.	42	Rájkumár College, Rájkot.	Has male heirs.
Maharaval Shri Fattehsingji.	Chotta Udepur.	Chawan Rajput, Hindu.	20	Do. ...	Under British management.
Maharaval Shri Mansingji.	Bária ...	Do. ...	49	Do. ...	Has male heirs.
Maharana Shri Sir Wakhatsingji.	Lunávada ...	Solunki Rajput, Hindu.	44	Do. ...	Do.
Nawab Manvar Khanji Babi.	Bálásinor ...	Mahomedan ...	9	.....	Under British management.
Maharana Shri Jorawarsingji.	Sunth ...	Punwar Rajput, Hindu.	23	Rájkumár College, Rájkot.	Has no male heir.

Area—4,980 square miles; *Population* (1901)—479,065; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 21,06,905; *Tribute to His Highness the Gáekwár and the British Government*—Rs. 1,30,801 and Rs. 24,382 respectively; *Military Force*—1,378; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, wheat, bájri, jowári, cotton, timber, maize, gram, mhowra.

1. The Agency comprises one first class State (Rájpipla), five second class States (of which Chotta Udepur and Bálásinor were under British management owing to the minority of their chiefs), 5 minor States and two Thána circles of 50 tálukas. Of the 5 minor estates, Sánjeli, Umetha and Nárukot continued under British management. General.

2. The Rájpipla Darbár enacted a code of Rules for regulating certain marriage customs and expenses connected therewith among Lewa Patidár Kanbis belonging to the State. Chief Events.

The Rája of Chhota Udepur has left the Rájkumár College and has been associated with the Administrator of his State to give him an insight into the administration.

Kumár Poospasingji, second son of the late Chief of Sánjeli, was formally placed on the *gádi* of his State by the Political Agent, his elder brother being a lunatic.

3. The rainfall was good and seasonable and crops, especially cotton, were good everywhere. Locusts did a little damage to maize in Baria and Sunth. Season and Crops.

4. Receipts and expenditure were Rs. 21,06,905 and Rs. 21,75,057 against Rs. 13,74,195 and Rs. 19,38,459, respectively, in the previous year. The increase in expenditure is chiefly due to the payment of arrears of tribute and of loan instalments. Revenue and Finance.

5. The total strength of the Police forces was 1,402 against 1,412 in the previous year. Of the 1,216 persons sent up for trial 75·5 per cent. were convicted as against 71·47 in 1902-1903. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 16,706. The percentage of recoveries fell from 53·76 to 38·3. Police.

6. The magistracy dealt with 2,491 persons as against 2,450 in 1902-1903. The number of serious offences again declined (from 84 to 43); the number of Sessions cases was 8 against 4 in the previous year. Criminal Justice.

7. The number of jails remained the same but that of prisoners fell from 1,933 to 1,099. Jails.

8. The civil courts decided 3,675 cases as against 2,102, but the arrears increased slightly. Civil Justice.

9. A new dispensary at Virpur in Bálásinor State raised the total number of dispensaries to 18. 80,722 patients were treated as against 73,052. The cost rose from Rs. 23,295 to Rs. 26,089. Vaccinations totalled 14,967 against 13,752. Plague appeared in Lunávada and other parts and caused 1,432 deaths. Medical Relief.

10. The number of schools was the same as in 1902-1903, *viz.* 171, but the number of scholars fell from 8,080 to 7,573. Education.

6.—CAMBAY STATE.

Ruling Chief—His Highness Jafferali Khan Saheb Bahadur *Caste*—Mogal (Shiah); *Age*—56; Educated at Cambay; *Has no male issue.*

Area—350 square miles; *Population* (1901)—75,225; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 5,54,263; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 21,924; *Military Force*—236; *Principal Articles of Production*—Jowári, bájri, kodra, rice, wheat, cotton, pulses, oil-seeds and tobacco; *Manufactures*—Cornelian stones, cloths, dhotis, carpets, horn and ivory work.

1. The rainfall was seasonable, but locusts did some damage. Cotton was good and fetched high prices. Season and Crops.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Cambay, Dharampur, Bánsda and Sachin.* Police.

2. Police numbered 170 and cost Rs. 22,041 against Rs. 19,394 in the previous year. 196 persons were arrested, and of these 61 per cent. against 73 per cent. were convicted. The value of stolen property fell from Rs. 7,091 to Rs. 4,961 and the percentage of recoveries rose from 48 to 51.

Criminal Justice.

3. There was a decrease in criminal work, 329 cases coming up for disposal as against 439 in 1902-1903. Out of 604 persons dealt with by the Courts, 207 were convicted. There were 10 appeals, in 4 of which the sentences were upheld.

Jails.

4. The daily average Jail population numbered 25 against 56, and the cost was Rs. 1,843 against Rs. 2,477 in 1902-1903.

Civil Justice.

5. The Civil Courts disposed of 2,523 out of 2,980 cases. The Sadar Court decided 5 out of 8 cases that came up for disposal. The Appellate Courts heard 56 appeals, and in 33 cases confirmed the decrees of the lower Courts.

Registration.

6. Five hundred and thirty-nine documents were registered as against 505 in the previous year. Fees fell from Rs. 4,588 to Rs. 3,898.

Public Works.

7. The total expenditure was Rs. 23,076. No capital expenditure was incurred on the Cambay Railway. The gross earnings amounted to Rs. 25,191.

Revenue and Finance.

8. Total receipts and expenditure were Rs. 5,54,263 and Rs. 3,50,675 against Rs. 3,28,271 and Rs. 3,49,700, respectively, in 1902-1903. The State is now free from famine and railway debts.

Medical Relief.

9. The four medical institutions had an average daily attendance of 399 as against 344 in the previous year. The cost rose slightly to Rs. 6,896.

Vital Statistics.

10. The number of births was 1,735 or 23·1 per mille and of deaths 2,276 or 30·3 per mille against rates per mille of 21 and 74·9, respectively, in the previous year. The town of Cambay was free from plague.

Municipalities.

11. The municipality of Cambay had an income of Rs. 6,249 and an expenditure of Rs. 15,164, the deficit, as usual, being made up by the State.

Education.

12. The 26 schools had an average daily attendance of 1,813 as against 1,166 in 1902-1903. The cost of education rose from Rs. 12,493 to Rs. 14,131.

II.—SOUTH GUJARAT.

1—DHARAMPUR, BANSDA AND SACHIN.

Ruling Chiefs.	*Residence.*	*Caste.*	*Age.*	*Where educated.*	*Heirs.*
Maharana Shri Mohandevji Narayandevji.	Dharampur ...	Sisodia Rajput.	41	Rájkumár College, Rájkot.	Has male heir.
Maharawal Shri Pratapsingji Gulabsingji.	Bánsda ...	Solunki Rajput.	40	Do. ...	Do.
Nawab Sidi Najab Ali Khan *alias* Ebrahim Khan.	Sachin ...	Suni Mahomedan.	19	Do. ...	Do.

Area—961 square miles ; *Population* (1901)—161,342 ; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 12,00,147 ; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 9,154 ; *Military Force*—261 ; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, nágli, jowári, gram, pulses, sugarcane, molasses ; *Manufactures*—Cotton cloth.

General.

1. This group consists of the three second class States of Dharampur, Bánsda and Sachin. The first two are managed by their Chiefs. Sachin, during the minority of its Chief, is administered by an Assistant Collector under the supervision of the Political Agent, Surat. The young Chief of Sachin joined the Imperial Cadet Corps during the year.

Season and Crops.

2. The season was generally favourable. Locusts did some damage in Dharampur, while plague was prevalent in parts of Sachin.

Survey.

3. The Revenue Survey of Dharampur was completed. It was already complete in the two other States.

Police.

4. The total strength of the Police force was 330 and the cost Rs. 39,375. Offences reported to the Police numbered 202. 236 persons were arrested and 204 convictions obtained. The percentage of stolen property recovered was 82·90.

Criminal Justice.

5. The Criminal Courts dealt with 563 persons, of whom 240 were convicted. There was a general decrease in crime, probably owing to the good season.

Jails.

6. A total of 172 persons against 360 in 1902-1903 was confined in prisons. The cost increased to Rs. 5,053, but the increase is merely an account one.

Civil Justice.

7. There were 439 suits for disposal as against 452 in 1902-1903. Of these, 417 were disposed of, leaving 22 in arrears. Eight appeals were made and disposed of.

8. Two hundred and six documents were registered and Rs. 834 realised as fees as against 166 and Rs. 780 in the previous year. TRIBUTARY STATES. *Dángs, Surgána and Jawhár.* Registration.

9. Dharampur and Bánsda are municipal towns, but no taxes are levied. The total cost of them, Rs. 3,518, was borne by the States concerned. Municipalities.

10. The expenditure on public works was Rs. 84,827 as against Rs. 1,01,101, in 1902-1903. Public Works.

11. The gross revenue of Dharampur was Rs. 6,48,598 and the gross expenditure Rs. 6,54,691. The former sum includes a loan of Rs. 2,45,284 and the latter a sum of Rs. 3,10,540 paid in liquidation of debt. The revenue and expenditure of Bánsda were Rs. 3,47,371 and Rs. 3,43,321 as against Rs. 2,90,420 and Rs. 2,89,924 in the previous year, while that of Sachin was Rs. 2,04,178 and Rs. 1,34,025 as against Rs. 2,20,316 and Rs. 1,55,592. A'bkári produced Rs. 96,341 in Dharampur and Rs. 1,27,836 in Bánsda. Revenue and Finance.

12. There were 3,394 births and 2,885 deaths registered as against 4,176 and 5,351 in the previous year. 4,861 persons were vaccinated. Vital Statistics

13. The four dispensaries treated 46,474 persons and cost Rs. 18,618. Medical Relief.

14. 2,876 scholars were educated in the 57 schools at a cost of Rs. 21,050. Education.

2.—THE DANGS.

Area—660 square miles; *Population*—18,633; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 42,990.

1. The Dangs are a collection of small estates belonging to petty Chiefs. They are under the care of the Collector and Political Agent, Surat. General.

2. Crops were generally good, though locusts damaged the nágli. The Mhowra crop was poor. Experiments have proved that jowári, bájri, wheat and gram can be successfully grown. Season.

3. The revenue receipts appear to be steadily increasing. They amounted to Rs 42,990. Expenditure was approximately Rs. 42,752. The Chiefs are gradually freeing themselves from their old debts and are incurring no new ones. Revenue.

4. Seventy-five criminal cases were tried. Out of these, 60 were under the A'bkári and Forest Acts. The figures show a decrease in crime generally, and in offences under the A'bkári Act in particular. Crime.

5. There was no epidemic of any kind during the year. Most of the man-eating panthers have been trapped. 528 children were vaccinated. Public Health.

III.—NORTH KONKAN.

1.—SURGANA.

Ruling Chief—Prataprao Deshmukh; *Residence*—Surgána; *Caste*—Hindu Kunbí; *Age*—23 years; Educated at Surgána State School; *Has male heir.*

Area—360 square miles; *Population*—11,532; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 19,384; *Tribute*—Nil; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, nágli and timber.

1. Surgána is a petty State of 61 villages, of which 46 are khálsa and 15 alienated. It is under the supervision of the Collector and Political Agent, Násik. General.

2. Rainfall was seasonable and crops excellent. Locusts appeared but did slight damage. Season and Crops.

3. The total strength of the Police was 13 and the cost Rs. 1,134. Of 66 persons before the Courts, 35 were convicted. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 10 and it was all recovered. There were 13 admissions to the Jail. Police and Criminal Justice.

4. Gross receipts were Rs. 19,384 against Rs. 26,134; but the decrease is only nominal, being due to a loan entered in last year's accounts. Revenue collections ro seby Rs. 3,705. Expenditure fell by Rs. 8,667 to Rs. 15,825. Revenue and Expenditure.

5. The number of births and deaths registered was 223 and 102, respectively. Vital Statistics.

6. The attendance at the one State school continued at 22. Education.

2.—JAWHAR.

Ruling Chief—Patangshah, Rája of Jawhár; *Caste*—Koli, Hindu; *Age*—50 years; Educated at Poona High School; *Has two male heirs.*

Area—310 square miles; *Population*—47,538; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 1,73,435; *Tribute to British Government*—Nil; *Military Force*—Nil; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, nágli and timber.

1. An average rainfall produced fairly good crops. Rice and nágli yielded an outturn of 10—12 annas and tur one of 4 annas. Season and Crops.

2. The strength of the Police was reduced from 60 to 45 and the cost fell by Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 4,626. Persons arrested numbered 59. Of 46 persons put on trial 80 per cent. were convicted. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 58 and of this Rs. 56 were recovered. Police.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Lorhár and Janjira.* Criminal Justice. 3. The Criminal Courts tried 281 persons and convicted 95 of them. Offences of hurt and intimidation, and offences under the A'bkári Law showed an increase. Three persons were extradited from the State into British territory and five persons to the State from British territory.

Jail. 4. The average daily Jail population was 17 against 27 in the previous year. The cost fell from Rs. 942 to Rs. 619.

Civil Justice. 5. Of 81 suits on the files, 72 were disposed of. Six out of ten civil appeals were heard.

Registration. 6. The number of documents registered remained the same, *i.e.* 83.

Revenue and Finance. 7. Revenue and expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,73,435 and Rs. 1,67,198, showing decreases of Rs. 45,000 and Rs. 49,000 on the figures of the previous year, respectively. Deducting the items of advances and deposits, there was a net increase in income of Rs. 16,967. Land revenue collections were practically the same, Rs. 63,723 being realised.

Public Works. 8. The outlay on public works was Rs. 10,602 against Rs. 23,829 in the previous year.

Vital Statistics. 9. The birth-rate rose from 32·64 to 45·24 per mille and the death-rate from 15·52 to 20·67.

Medical Relief. 10. The State dispensary treated 2,871 patients at a cost of Rs. 2,378. There were 1,515 vaccinations.

Education. 11. The number of Primary Schools was reduced from 3 to 2 for want of sufficient attendance. The number of pupils on the rolls at the end of the year was 185.

Miscellaneous. 12. The Inám village of Záp was resumed by the State. The amount of grain advanced to cultivators decreased considerably owing to the fact that grain is now advanced to registered holders only.

IV.—SOUTH KONKAN.

1.—JANJIRA.

Ruling Chief—His Highness Sir Sidi Ahmed Khan, K.C.I.E.; *Residence*—Murud-Janjira; *Caste*—Habsi, Suni Mahomedan; *Age*—42 years; Educated at Rájkumar College, Rájkot; *Has no male heirs.*

Area—377 square miles; *Population*—97,311; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 5,03,678; *Military Force*—245; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, nágli, til, cocoanuts, betelnuts, timber, myrabolams, hemp, and fish.

General. 1. The State of Janjira has a dependency in Káthiáwár, Jafarabad, with an area of 53 square miles, the figures for which are this year included in this summary. Janjira is administered by His Highness the Nawab Saheb. The Political Agent is the Collector of Kolába.

Season and Crops. 2. The rainfall was heavy but not very seasonable. The grain crops were medium; garden crops were good, but the trees were damaged by locusts after January.

Police and Criminal Justice. 3. The strength of the Police was 165. The cost fell very slightly to Rs. 19,903. Of 101 persons sent for trial, 63 were convicted. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 1,788 and the percentage of recoveries dropped to 48. In 252 cases disposed of by the criminal courts, 623 persons were involved and of these 109 were convicted. There were nine appeals in four of which the sentences were confirmed.

Prison. 4. The daily average number of prisoners in the Jail fell from 35 to 19·4.

Civil Justice. 5. The Civil Courts disposed of 655 suits, leaving 62 in arrears. Out of 934 applications for execution of decrees, 828 were disposed of. There were 20 civil appeals which were all heard.

Registration. 6. The number of documents registered was 773 as against 873. The net profits fell from Rs. 2,088 to Rs. 1,871.

Forests. 7. The forest revenue rose by Rs. 1,567 to Rs. 40,738. The expenditure rose by Rs. 1,814 to Rs. 12,270.

Trade. 8. The import trade of Habsan again showed a substantial increase to Rs. 4,34,255 in value and the exports again a decrease to Rs. 3,05,447. The total trade of Jafarabad was valued at 8·65 lákhs against 4·89 lákhs in the previous year.

Public Works. 9. Expenditure on public works in Janjira rose from Rs. 39,743 to Rs. 59,566. Of this Rs. 16,756 were spent on new works, including a bungalow for His Highness the Nawab at Kesoli. In Jafarabad the expenditure was Rs. 8,091.

Abkári. 10. Abkári realised a revenue of Rs. 73,270 against Rs. 65,702. The expenditure rose from Rs. 11,744 to Rs. 15,067.

Revenue and Finance. 11. The total receipts and expenditure for the year were Rs. 5,72,488 and Rs. 5,31,302 against Rs. 5,31,833 and Rs. 5,36,460 in the previous year respectively. The closing balance rose to Rs. 6,71,846.

Vital Statistics and Medical Relief. 12. Births fell from 3,717 to 3,473 and deaths rose from 2,476 to 3,149. The number of vaccinations fell slightly to 2,853. Besides the Darbár Dispensary there were four dispensaries which treated 26,880 patients at a cost of Rs. 7,873. In addition to these there were two dispensaries in Jafarabad, which treated 6,111 patients at a cost of Rs. 1,623.

Education. 13. The 68 State schools had a daily average attendance of 1,991 pupils and cost Rs. 25,943.

2.—SAVANTVADI.

Ruling Chief—Shri Ram Savant Bhosle Sar Desai; *Residence*—Savantvádi; *Caste*—Marátha, Hindu; *Age*—33 years; Educated at Belgaum High School and Rájkumár College, Rajkot; *Has male heir.*

Area—925 square miles; *Population* (1901)—217,732; *Gross Revenue* (1903-1904)—Rs. 4,33,133; *Military Force*—318; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, náchni, vari, cocoanuts and betelnuts; *Manufactures*—Ornamental furniture in painted lacquer work, inlaid cocoanut and kuskus fancy articles, embroidery and horn work, toys, etc.

Season and Crops. 1. The rainfall (157 inches) was above the average. A great deal of damage was done by locusts to hill crops and gardens. Rice yielded a 12-anna crop. The other food grain, náchni, yielded only 4 to 6 annas, while many cocoanut and betelnut trees were killed by locusts.

Police. 2. The strength of the Police was 137, of whom 103 were enlisted policemen. They cost Rs. 12,738. 266 offences were reported and 398 arrests made. The percentage of persons convicted to those sent for trial was 42·5. The value of stolen property was Rs. 20,550, of which only 25 per cent. was recovered.

Criminal Justice 3. In all 1,090 persons as against 921 in 1902-1903 came before the 9 Criminal Courts, Of these 511 were convicted. The apparent increase in crime was chiefly due to a larger number of prosecutions under the Municipal Act. There were 8 cases of serious crime. Out of 53 appeals in 34 cases the lower Courts' decision was unaltered.

Jails. 4. The daily average jail population was 43 as against 36 in the previous year. The cost increased to Rs. 3,187.

Civil Justice. 5. Out of 2,738 civil suits for disposal, 2,220 were disposed of, while the arrears were reduced from 814 to 518.

Registration. 6. The number of documents registered fell from 2,044 to 1,944. The income of this department was Rs. 9,211 as against Rs. 8,989 in the previous year.

Municipality. 7. The Municipal Board of Sávantvádi was abolished and the control of the town given to the Assistant Political Agent, with the result that income and administration improved.

Military. 8. The reduction of the Local Corps to a strength of 250 men was sanctioned. At the close of the year it was still 68 men over strength. Its cost was Rs. 50,245.

Forests. 9. The Forest area was unchanged. Its income and expenditure were Rs. 34,504 and Rs. 11,584 as against Rs. 24,659 and Rs. 13,662 in 1902-1903.

Public Works. 10. The outlay on Public Works was Rs. 67,342. A new dispensary at Kudal was completed.

Revenue and Finance. 11. The gross receipts were Rs. 4,33,133 or Rs. 2,36,014 less than last year when the estate of the late Rani Tarabai was included in the income. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,76,893 and the closing balance was Rs. 5,57,744.

Local Funds. 12. The income and expenditure of Local Funds, excluding education, amounted to Rs. 27,179 and Rs. 33,985 respectively.

Vital Statistics. 13. The number of births and deaths were 5,775 and 5,328 against 7,372 and 4,690 in 1902-1903 respectively. The number of vaccinations were 6,304, *i.e.* almost the same as in 1902-1903.

Medical Relief. 14. The daily average attendance of the seven dispensaries rose to 324 and the total cost to Rs. 20,240 or Rs. 4,354 more than in the previous year.

Education. 15. The number of schools fell from 191 to 155 and that of pupils from 6,949 to 6389, the decrease being chiefly in private unaided institutions. The income and expenditure of this department amounted to Rs. 26,164 and Rs. 26,252 respectively.

3.—SAVANUR.

Ruling Chief—Abdul Majidkhan Dilerjang Bahádur; *Residence*—Dhárwár; *Caste*—Pathán Mahomedan; *Age*—13 years; minor, being educated at the Rájkumár College, Rájkot; *Has no male heir.*

Area—70 square miles; *Population*—18,446; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 88,452; *Principal Articles of Production*—Cotton, jowári, rice, wheat, betel-leaf and cocoanuts; *Manufactures*—Sádis, dhotars, etc.

General. 1. During the minority of the Naváb, the State is under the management of the Collector of Dhárwár as Political Agent, with his senior Assistant as Assistant Political Agent.

Season and Crops. 2. The rainfall was about normal. Cotton was good, wheat very poor, and other crops fair.

Revenue and Finance. 3. Revenue fell by Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 88,452, while expenditure rose slightly to Rs. 84,187. The closing balance was Rs. 3,47,568. Expenditure on public works rose by Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 19,172.

Police and Criminal Justice. 4. The permanent Police remained the same in number, *i. e.* 46. Twenty persons were sent for trial by the Police and of these 11 were convicted. Of 64 persons tried for non-cognisable offences, 6 were convicted. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 4,643 and of this only 7 per cent. was recovered against 28 per cent. in the previous year. Eighteen persons were admitted to the jail during the year as against 6.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Savanúr and Sátára.* Civil Justice.

5. The one Civil Court of Original Jurisdiction decided 54 out of 110 suits for disposal. The Political Agent heard two appeals and in both cases confirmed the decision of the lower Court. Of 63 applications for execution of decrees, 31 were disposed of.

Registration.

6. Documents to the number of 202 were registered against 183 in the previous year.

Municipality.

7. The expenditure of the Savanúr Municipality (Rs. 3,863) slightly exceeded the income (Rs. 3,716) and the closing balance was Rs. 872.

Vital Statistics and Medical Relief.

8. Births and deaths numbered 508 and 1,257 against 495 and 1,686 in the previous year. Plague deaths fell from 1,222 to 784. The Savanúr Dispensary treated 11,600 out-door and 2 in-door patients. Vaccinations rose from 455 to 502.

Education.

9. The number of schools remained at 11. The attendance rose slightly to 548 and expenditure to Rs. 5,946.

V.—THE DECCAN.

SATARA JAGHIRS.

Ruling Chiefs.	*Residence.*	*Caste.*	*Age.*	*Where educated.*	*Heirs.*
Parshram Rao Pandit Pratinidhi.	Aundh ...	Deshasta Bráhmin, Hindu.	47	Privately ...	Has male heir.
Mudhoji Rao Naik Nimbálkar.	Phaltan ...	Kshatriya, Hindu.	66	Do. ...	Do.
Shankar Rao Chimnjai Pandit Gandekar, Pant Sachiv.	Bhor ...	Bráhmin, Hindu.	50	Do. ...	Do.
Fatehsing Shahaji *alias* Bapu Saheb Raje Bhosle.	Akalkot ...	Marátha, Hindu.	9½	Do. ...	Has no male heirs.
Ramrao *alias* Aba Saheb Daphle.	Jath ...	Do. ...	19	Rájkumar College, Rájkot.	Do.
Rani Bai Saheb Daphle.	Daphlápur ...	Do. ...	70	Privately at Mudhol.	Do.

State.	*Area.*	*Population (1901).*	*Gross Revenue (1903-04).*	*Tribute to British Government.*	*Military Force.*
	Sqr. miles.		Rs.	Rs.	
Aundh ...	447	63,921	2,30,729	Nil.	Nil.
Phaltan ...	397	45,739	2,00,437	9,600	Nil.
Bhor ...	925	137,268	3,68,768	4,643	Nil.
Akalkot ...	498	82,047	4,57,352	14,592	50
Jath ...	884	61,868	3,27,321	6,400	Nil.
Daphlápur ...	96	6,797	24,769	Nil.	Nil.
Total ...	3,247	397,640	16,09,376	35,235	50

Principal Articles of Production—Rice, nágli, sava, juvári, bájri, wheat, gram, linseed, sugarcane, etc.; *Manufactures*—Cloth and garments of common kinds, brass-pots, etc.

General.

1. The Sátára Jághirs comprise the six States shown above. Akalkot and Jath are under Government management owing to the minority of their respective Chiefs.

Season and Crops.

2. In all States, save Phaltan, the rainfall was sufficient and crops good. Locusts appeared in Aundh and Bhor, but came too late to damage the crops. In Phaltan the early rainfall was sufficient and kharif crops fair, but later crops did not get enough rain and the outturn was below the average.

Revenue and Finance.

3. The combined revenues of the Jághirs rose from Rs. 14,71,698 to Rs. 16,09,376 and the expenditure from Rs. 13,98,980 to Rs. 14,50,664. Jath repaid Rs. 1,67,577 of its loan from Government.

Police.

4. The total strength of the Police fell from 592 to 579, while the cost rose by over Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 67,223. Offences reported declined in number slightly to 596, while arrests fell from 476 to 367. Of persons arrested, 68 per cent., as against 63 per cent. in 1902-03, were convicted. The value of stolen property rose by about Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 19,679, but the percentage of recoveries remained the same, *i.e.* 43 per cent.

Criminal Justice.

5. The Criminal Courts dealt with 1,756 persons and convicted 822 of them. Fifty-five criminal appeals were disposed of.

Prisons.

6. There were 8 jails and 16 lock-ups in which 296 persons were confined at a cost of Rs. 8,739.

Civil Justice.

7. The Civil Courts decided 2,009 cases out of 2,457 for disposal. Of 207 civil appeals 162 were decided.

Registration.

8. There were 4,373 documents registered against 4,507. Fees rose from Rs. 4,927 to Rs. 5,102.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Kolhápur.*

9. There were four Municipalities (two in Bhor and one each in Phaltan and Jath) with aggregate incomes and expenditures of Rs. 22,377 and Rs. 23,129 against Rs. 15,277 and Rs. 14,598, respectively, in the previous year. Municipalities.

10. The aggregate expenditure on Public Works rose from Rs. 99,397 to Rs. 1,45,608. Public Works.

11. Births rose from 14,212 to 15,185 and deaths from 13,682 to 13,767. In Phaltan, Akalkot and Jath there were 2,783 deaths from plague. Vaccinations numbered 10,343 against 11,326. Vital Statistics.

12. There were seven dispensaries, including a travelling dispensary in Akalkot, which treated 53,347 patients at a cost of Rs. 14,269. Medical Relief.

13. The number of schools rose from 151 to 154, but the number of pupils dropped from 5,765 to 5,641. The total aggregate cost rose from Rs. 38,507 to Rs. 41,270. Education.

VI.—SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY STATES.

1.—KOLHAPUR.

Ruling Chief—Sir Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., LL.D.; *Area*—3,165 square miles; *Population* (1901)—910,011; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 54,51,719; *Tribute to British Government*—Nil; *Military Force*—688; *Principal Articles of Production*—Rice, jowári, sugarcane, tobacco, cotton, etc.; *Manufactures*—Coarse cotton and woollen cloths, pottery and hardware.

1. There are nine feudatory Jághirs which pay tribute to Kolhápur, each managed by its chief. General.

2. The chief events of the year were the visit of His Excellency the Governor (Sir James Monteath) and the betrothal of Her Highness Radhabai Akasaheb, the daughter of His Highness the Maharaja, to His Highness Tukojirao Powar Rajesaheb of Devas. Also during the year the Residuary Criminal Jurisdiction in the Feudatory Estates was restored to the Maharaja by Government. Chief Events.

3. Rainfall was satisfactory and all crops good. The prices of most of the staple food grains were below the normal. Season and Crops.

4. The number of Police increased from 808 to 873 owing to the employment of a temporary force in connection with plague. The cost increased from Rs. 77,780 to Rs. 80,455. Crime showed a general decrease. The number of offences reported to the Police fell from 806 to 610. Of 527 persons put on trial, 289 were convicted and 186 were awaiting trial at the close of the year. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 89,542, and recoveries amounted to 62 per cent. as against 50 per cent. in 1902-1903. Police.

5. The 62 criminal courts dealt with 6,154 persons and convicted 1,194 of them, while 1,111 persons were awaiting trial at the end of the year. The Chief Sessions Court disposed of 54 cases involving 181 persons, of whom 124 were convicted. Out of 287 criminal appeals the applications were rejected in 69 and the sentences confirmed in 75, while they were reversed in 89. Criminal Justice.

6. The number of prisoners in the 18 prisons fell from 1,874 to 1,680 and the cost of maintenance from Rs. 27,653 to Rs. 19,944. Prisons.

7. There were 38 civil courts as against 37 in the previous year. Suits for disposal numbered 6,517 as against 7,249, and arrears 2,181 as against 2,242. Out of 610 appeals 288 were disposed of. Special appeals to His Highness the Maharaja's Court were in all 346 and of these 138 against 57 were disposed of. Civil Justice.

8. The number of documents registered was 5,483 against 6,042 and fees realised Rs. 28,297 against Rs. 32,024. The cost fell from Rs. 7,587 to Rs. 6,153. Registration.

9. The Kolhápur Municipality was suspended owing to its maladministration and was handed over to a Darbar official for management. Its income rose from Rs. 52,243 to Rs. 62,579 owing to increase in the sale of night-soil manure. The other 8 municipalities had an aggregate income and expenditure of Rs. 22,959 and Rs. 17,266 against Rs. 24,709 and Rs. 25,240 respectively of the previous year. Municipalities.

10. The military force consisted of 533 infantry under an European officer and a Risala body-guard of 155. Maintenance charges fell from Rs. 1,15,172 to Rs. 1,08,015. Military.

11. The forest area increased by two square miles. The hirda crop was a record one and receipts rose from Rs. 27,715 to Rs. 2,01,786 and expenditure from Rs. 30,340 to Rs. 1,30,400. Forest.

12. The outlay on public works was Rs. 3,24,745 against Rs. 2,94,409 in the previous year. Public Works.

13. Births rose from 26,774 to 27,163 and deaths from 40,118 to 45,365, the ratios being 29·8 and 49·9 respectively per mille. Successful vaccinations numbered 20,764 against 19,524 in 1902-1903. Vital Statistics.

14. The number of patients treated at the 16 medical institutions fell from 172,930 to 167,728 and the expenditure from Rs. 53,240 to Rs. 51,122. Medical Relief.

15. The number of schools rose from 244 to 250 and that of scholars from 8,726 to 8,823. The expenditure fell from Rs. 1,22,682 to Rs. 1,17,335. Education.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Southern Marátha States.* Revenue and Finance.

16. The total gross receipts of the Kolhápur State proper rose from Rs. 35,10,856 to Rs. 43,91,446. The net receipts and expenditure however were Rs. 18,53,765 and Rs. 16,18,144 against Rs. 19,28,852 and Rs. 17,62,246.

2.—OTHER SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY STATES.

General.

1. The Southern Mahrátta Country embraces the following eight States:—

	Area in square miles.	Population.	Tribute to British Government.	Gross Revenue.
			Rs.	Rs.
Sangli	1,083	226,128	1,35,000	15,82,107
Miraj Senior	339	81,467	12,557	3,53,349
Miraj Junior	210	35,806	6,412	3,88,767
Kurundwad Senior	185	42,474	9,618	1,95,368
Kurundwad Junior	114	34,003		1,78,054
Jamkhandi	524	105,357	20,840	13,61,296
Mudhol	361	63,001	2,671	3,33,447
Ramdurg	169	37,848	Nil	1,91,681
Total ...	2,985	626,084	1,87,098	45,84,069

Sangli and Miraj Junior are under direct Government management. The other States are managed by their respective Chiefs.

Chief Events.

2. The Chief of Kurundwad Senior was appointed to be an Additional Member of the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor and the Chiefs of Jamkhandi and Mudhol were invested with full powers of administration during the year.

Season and Crops.

3. The rainfall was seasonable and crops, especially cotton, were good.

Legislation.

4. The Currency Notes Forgery Act (No. XII of 1899) was introduced in Jamkhandi and Ramdurg.

Police.

5. The police force numbered 1,469 as against 1,543 in the previous year and cost Rs. 1,95,586 as against Rs. 1,94,724. Crime showed a fairly general decrease. The number of accused sent for trial was 800 as compared with 1,166 in 1902-03, and the percentage of persons convicted rose from 44 to 51 per cent. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 79,612 and of this 51·7 per cent. was recovered.

Criminal Justice.

6. The Magistracy dealt with 2,487 persons, of whom 586 were convicted. There were 126 criminal appeals, all but 7 of which were disposed of.

Prisons.

7. The number of prisons was 27 and of persons confined 777 against 928 in the previous year. The cost slightly decreased to Rs. 22,908.

Civil Justice.

8. The civil courts decided 4,815 suits out of a total of 5,896 and reduced the arrears from 1,148 to 1,081. 484 appeals were disposed of and the arrears reduced from 312 to 165.

Registration.

9. Documents registered numbered 4,950 against 6,339 in 1902-1903 and fees Rs. 21,555 against Rs. 22,064.

Forests.

10. The forest area was unchanged. Income rose to Rs. 23,876 and expenditure to Rs. 11,042.

Public Works.

11. The total outlay on public works rose from Rs. 1,68,789 to Rs. 2,21,534.

Municipalities.

12. Municipalities numbered 31. Their aggregate income improved to Rs. 1,12,230 and their expenditure declined slightly to Rs. 98,365, leaving a surplus of Rs. 13,865 instead of the deficit of Rs. 12,504 of 1902-1903.

Revenue and Finance.

13. The gross revenue rose from Rs. 34¾ lakhs to Rs. 45¾ lakhs. The closing balance was Rs. 39 lakhs as against Rs. 33 lakhs in 1902-1903.

Mines.

14. The Sangli gold mine has begun work. A license to prospect for manganese ore has been granted.

Vital Statistics.

15. During the year there were 16,550 births and 38,241 deaths as against 16,347 and 32,023 in the previous year. The increase in deaths is more than accounted for by plague, the mortality from which was 25,310 as against 18,491 in 1902-1903. Vaccinations numbered 14,481 as against 16,104.

Medical Relief.

16. There were 23 dispensaries with a total attendance of 179,845 or nearly 20,000 less than the previous year. The cost increased from Rs. 49,755 to Rs. 55,137.

Education.

17. The number of schools fell from 250 to 247, the attendance from 10,962 to 10,205, and the cost from Rs. 1,01,952 to Rs. 99,301. There were 28 libraries and 3 reading-rooms.

VII.—SIND.

KHAIRPUR.

Ruling Chief—His Highness Mir Sir Faiz Mahommad Khan, Talpur, G.C.I.E.; *Residence*—Khairpur; *Caste*—Talpur Beluch, Mahomedan; *Age*—69 years; Educated privately; *Has male issue.*

Area—6,050 square miles; *Population*—199,313; *Gross Revenue*—Rs. 8,35,748; *Military Force*—212; *Principal Articles of Production*—Fuller's earth, sulphate of soda, cotton, wool, grain, seeds, ghi, tobacco, indigo; *Manufactures*—Cloth, leather, ivory work, swords, metal-work, cutlery, cotton, silk and woollen work, lacquered wood work and carpets.

1. The cultivated area rose by 40,000 acres to 207,200 acres, owing to the favourable inundation. Rs. 23,428 were advanced as takávi for wells, seed and cattle. General.

2. Kharif crops were poor owing to excess of water and the ravages of locusts. Rabi crops were better, but prices were very low. Season and Crops.

3. Legal enactments were introduced (1) to prevent the smuggling of opium, (2) to make registration of deeds of sale, mortgage, and lease of land compulsory, (3) to assist the indebted agriculturist by fixing the ordinary rate of interest at 9 per cent., by prohibiting the sale of land in execution of a decree, and by other measures. Legislation.

4. The police force was raised in number to 220. The cost rose slightly to Rs. 47,962. The number of accused arrested was 335. All these were sent for trial and of them 239 were convicted, giving a percentage of convictions to arrests of 71 against 80 in the previous year. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 9,774, and the percentage of recoveries was 22 against 52, the fall being due to one dacoity case involving Rs. 5,000 worth of property, in which no property was recovered. The Magistrates convicted 523 out of 1,149 persons appearing before them. There were 50 criminal appeals, in 35 of which the sentences were confirmed. Police.

5. The average daily number of prisoners in the two jails fell from 229 to 213. The cost fell by Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 9,304. Prisons.

6. Of 1,746 civil suits, 1,369 were disposed of against 1,199 disposed of in 1902-1903. Of 397 applications for execution, 232 were disposed of. The Appellate Courts decided 82 appeals, leaving 19 in arrears. Civil Justice.

7. The number of documents registered rose from 98 to 172 but fees dropped from Rs. 1,180 to Rs. 814. Registration.

8. The cost of maintaining the military force of 212 regulars and 165 irregulars was reduced by nearly Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 73,168. Military.

9. Forest revenue increased slightly to Rs. 26,226. Forest.

10. Rs. 2,38,635 were spent on public works, of which Rs. 1,78,031 were expended on canals. Large granaries were built at railway stations. Public Works.

11. The revenue fell from Rs. 13,06,407 to Rs. 8,35,748 and the expenditure from Rs. 12,66,079 to Rs. 11,58,496. The closing balance fell to Rs. 2,06,155 in addition to which there was unsold grain, the property of the State, worth Rs. 2,75,000. There was a decrease of Rs. 4½ lákhs in land revenue. Revenue and Finance.

12. The number of births and deaths registered was 1,860 and 3,388 against 1,950 and 3,101 in the preceding year. The figures are, however, not reliable. Vital Statistics.

13. The seven dispensaries treated 160,640 patients against 145,628 in the previous year. The cost rose by Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 19,678. Vaccinations increased to 6,197 in number. Medical Relief.

14. Schools fell in number from 156 to 135 and the attendance from 5,282 to 4,586. The cost rose from Rs. 53,917 to Rs. 59,986. Education.

VIII.—ADEN.

Area (inclusive of Perim)—80 square miles; *Population*—43,974; *Gross Revenue* (*Imperial*)—Rs. 68,942.

1. Relations with the Arab tribes were on the whole friendly, though there were some disturbances. The Boundary Commission continued their work of demarcation to the coast throughout the year. General.

2. Including Debt and Remittance Accounts, receipts at the Treasury amounted to Rs. 80,21,882 and disbursements to Rs. 80,68,273. Excluded Local Funds had an income of Rs. 6,47,708 and an expenditure of Rs. 4,51,315. Abkári, opium, and salt all showed increases in Revenue. Revenue and Finance.

3. The strength of the Police, including the harbour police, increased by 1 to 258, while the cost rose from Rs. 70,623 to Rs. 73,086. Persons sent to trial for cognizable offences numbered 191 against 282. The percentage of convictions was 72 against 81. Stolen property was valued at Rs. 5,659 of which Rs. 1,186 or 20 per cent. was recovered as against 16 per Police and Criminal Justice.

TRIBUTARY STATES. *Aden.*

cent. in 1902-1903. The criminal courts, including that of the Cantonment Magistrate, tried 494 persons as against 657 and convicted 317. 235 persons were involved in 64 miscellaneous cases and of them 222 were convicted.

Prisons.

4. There were 125 persons confined in the prisons as against 154. The daily average number was 31 as against 40 in 1902-03. The cost of maintenance and establishment fell by Rs. 1,399 to Rs. 8,261, while Rs. 1,816 was realised from the sale of prison manufactures.

Civil Justice.

5. Of 838 civil suits for disposal all save 11 were decided. There were two appeals, in one of which the judgment of the lower Court was confirmed.

Registration.

6. There were 180 documents registered representing property to the value of Rs. 9,89,970 against 145 documents of a value of Rs. 2,38,658 in the previous year. Fees rose from Rs. 1,140 to Rs. 2,609.

Settlement Funds.

7. From January 1st, 1904, an Executive Committee took over the work and funds of the Municipality. Including Shaikh Othmán the Settlement Fund receipts and expenditure were Rs. 2,09,784 and Rs. 2,04,966 against Rs. 1,98,446 and Rs. 1,80,615 in 1902-03 respectively.

Military.

8. The strength of the Aden Garrison, exclusive of troops at Perim and in the interior, was 2,293.

Public Works.

9. No works of great importance were taken in hand but quarters for various military subordinates were completed and several improvements and additions carried out. Sixty new seats were provided for Christ Church at Steamer Point and the usual repairs to roads, etc., undertaken. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,68,702.

Quarantine.

10. The Venice Sanitary Convention Rules were enforced against arrivals from infected ports. The Port Surgeon examined 155,632 passengers as against 103,498 in the previous year. Fifty-two ships with 33,471 pilgrims were medically inspected and in no case was practique granted.

Vital Statistics and Medical Relief.

11. Births decreased slightly to 658 while deaths rose from 1,303 to 2,024. The five medical institutions treated 35,073 patients against 30,750 in the last year. In Aden vaccinations numbered 2,267 and of these 891 were reported successful.

Education.

12. The average number of pupils at the Residency English Schools was 54·9 against 50·4 and at the Arabic Schools 263 against 234. Besides this there were 40 private schools with 1,772 pupils. The expenditure rose slightly to Rs. 6,352.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The year was a fair one from the agriculturist's point of view, though it was not as favourable in the Native States generally as it was in British districts. The people were more pulled down by the famine and consequently are taking longer to recover. In Gujarát the rainfall was in many places untimely and in some, deficient. Here, as elsewhere, cotton proved a veritable gold mine to a small proportion of the cultivating classes; but, though there was no real scarcity, there were no bumper crops of food-grains. There was in consequence no marked improvement in the condition of the people. In the Native States of the Konkan, the Deccan, and the Southern Mahrátta Country crops would have been generally very good but for the ravages of locusts. As it was they were good enough to produce an improvement in condition among a people who are more or less inured to famine. Nearly everywhere the baneful influence of plague was felt more severely than ever: but, while in one way affecting all classes equally, in another way it actually benefited the labouring classes and made the efforts of the farmer to make both ends meet still more difficult of accomplishment. By diminishing the supply, it ensured a constant demand for labour, the price of which in some parts showed a tendency to rise. This, combined with the general cheapness of food-grains, made the lot of the labouring classes easier. To some extent the year was a good one for the trading classes especially for those interested in cotton industries, but in Gujarát at least little capital was available for the inauguration of new industrial or agricultural enterprises. The most that can be said of the year is that it did not cause any relapse in the prosperity of the people.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

1. Realization of Land Revenue.

The following table shows the number of occupancies in each district and the number of distraints effected for the collection of arrears of the Government demand during the past two years :—

Divisions.	Districts.	Number of Occupancies.		Number of Distraints.	
		1902-1903.	1903-1904.	1902-1903.	1903-1904.
Sind	Thar and Párkar	40,340	43,523	...	3
	Sukkur	31,672	32,285	53	2
	Hyderabad	34,084	34,135	11	7
	Upper Sind Frontier	4,182	4,295	7	43
	Karáchi	12,295	13,123	1	4
	Larkhána	44,887	44,978	11	16
	Total	167,460	172,639	83	75
Northern Division	Broach	49,641	47,086	203	217
	Ahmedabad	59,972	61,576	146	112
	Panch Maháls	29,258	28,875	2	3
	Kaira	108,485	110,987	467	474
	Surat	77,630	77,966	330	27
	Thána	83,023	83,480	315	74
	Total	408,009	409,970	1,463	907
Central Division	Khándesh	142,186	1,43,507	4	14
	Násik	76,936	77,397	162	125
	Sholápur	48,363	49,314	...	29
	Poona	72,700	72,834	31	119
	Sátára	74,028	74,051	97	122
	Ahmednagar	72,618	72,925	151	116
	Total	486,831	490,028	445	525
Southern Division	Belgaum	69,198	51,946	2	1
	Dhárwár	82,381	82,518	1	2
	Ratnágiri	138,240	138,598	210	232
	Kánara	36,945	36,952	16	50
	Kolába	62,246	62,473	2	3
	Bijápur	82,061	84,224	...	36
	Total	471,071	456,718	231	324
	GRAND TOTAL	1,533,371	1,529,355	2,222	1,831

The above table shows that there was a slight increase in the number of occupancies in all Divisions save the Southern Division. The decrease there is a large one (14,353), and is confined to Belgaum, which showed an increase of 17,178 in the year 1902-03. The net result for the Presidency and Sind is a decrease of 4,016 in the number of occupancies. The total number of distraints fell from 2,222 to 1831. There was an increase, however, in the Central and Southern Divisions. The total demand for the year was Rs. 4,33,33,960, and the total collections Rs. 3,94,56,670, against Rs. 4,12,01,363 and Rs. 3,70,61,893, respectively, in 1902-03.

2. Surveys.

1. GREAT TRIGONOMETRICAL SURVEY.

Work was continued in connection with the detail survey on the scale of 2 inches to a mile in the Hyderabad, Karáchi and Thar and Párkar Districts. The total area covered was about 2,708 square miles.

2. TIDAL AND LEVELLING OPERATIONS.

Tidal observations.

1. Tidal observations have been carried on as usual by means of self-registering tide gauges at the ports of Aden, Karáchi, Port Albert Victor (Káthiáwár) and Apollo Bandar and Prince's Dock (Bombay). The Observatory at Okha Point (Baroda) was re-erectd at the end of

January 1904 after a lapse of 29 years, and observations are now being recorded there. The Observatory at Port Albert Victor (Káthiáwár) was closed in April 1904, after four complete years of observations, which will furnish sufficient data for the prediction of the tides in the future.

The tide tables for Indian Ports, including ten ports under the Bombay Government, for the year 1904 were published as usual.

Levelling operations.

2. There were no levelling operations in the Presidency during the year.

3. Revenue Surveys.

Northern Division.

1. In all three divisions of the Presidency Proper the temporary establishments were either augmented or replaced by the appointment of six permanent Surveyors. In the Northern Division the Survey party was employed in the Kaira and Ahmedabad Districts in connection with the measurement of lands taken up for famine relief works and of other lands. A total of 1,762 survey numbers, with an area of 6,328 acres, was measured. Two of the permanent Surveyors were employed for six months in instructing the Survey Classes of Circle Inspectors. The staff of Correction Classers carried out corrections in Survey Records necessitated by the measurement of lands taken up for famine relief works and dealt, in all, with 3,322 survey numbers. The staff of Register Writers were employed on the preparation and duplication of the *akarbands* of six tálukas and on the preparation of the *himayat* assessment statements for the Matar Táluka.

Central Division.

2. The Akráni field party was maintained at its full strength, in addition to the new six permanent Surveyors. Its work consisted of the complete measurement and classification of four inám villages and the partial measurement and classification of one inám village in the Násik, Poona and Sátára Districts, the complete measurement of 14 villages and the partial measurements of two villages in the Akráni Pargana, the complete classification of 13 villages in the Akráni Pargana, and the erection of boundary marks in four villages in the Násik District. The Survey Daftardár's establishment prepared the *akarbands* of 77 Government and 20 inám villages of the Khándesh, Násik, Sátára and Sholápur Districts, and did work in connection with the settlement reports of 499 villages of the Násik and Khándesh Districts. The Survey Daftardár gave instruction in settlement work to the Circle Inspectors attending the Survey Classes.

Southern Division.

3. Six permanent Surveyors displaced the temporary field party. They conducted five classes in Survey for Circle Inspectors. The temporary classes helped in working off arrears of correction work in the Kolába District Survey Office and the arrears of measurement work in the Bijápur District.

Sind.

4. In Sind the usual five Survey parties were engaged in various parts of the province. Their operations extended to 27,498 survey numbers with an area of 138,290 acres. The strength of the establishment was reduced from 48 to 43 men, so the area covered was somewhat less than in the previous year. Two other Revenue Surveyors, working independently, measured 4,600 acres. In addition to this, arrears to the extent of 1,459 survey numbers, which had been already measured, were cleared off by being plotted on the maps and entered in the Village Registers. A Survey Class was held for the training of Assistant and Deputy Collectors and Muktiárkars. The total cost of the Land Record Office, exclusive of the pay of the Tapedárs which is met from the village cess fund, was approximately Rs. 97,497 against Rs. 1,00,248 in the previous year.

4. Bombay Forest Survey.

The Forest Survey party carried on operations in the Northern and Central Circles. In Thána 76·30 square miles were surveyed on the 8-inch scale, while nearly 82 square miles were surveyed in Násik on the same scale. In the Sátára and Khándesh Districts 576 square miles were surveyed on a 4-inch scale, while the advance triangulation of 677 square miles was completed. The total cost of these operations was Rs. 73,449. In addition to this the party undertook the special survey of Matheran Hill Station and completed 3·33 miles on the 16-inch scale.

3. Settlements.

1. Presidency Proper.

During the year revised rates sanctioned by Government for the Mándvi and Párdi Tálukas of Surat were announced. The result of these settlements was an increase of 4·6 per cent. in the assessment of the former táluka and of 8·19 in that of the latter táluka. Revised rates for one inám village in Kaira were sanctioned, and will be introduced during the current year. In the Central Division original settlements were introduced in 188 Government villages in the Khándesh District, and revised rates in two such villages, while 7 inám villages in the districts of Khándesh, Ahmednagar and Sátára were settled or re-settled, the total net result being an increase of about 95 per cent. in the assessment. Proposals for the Revision Settlement of four tálukas of the Sholápur District were sanctioned.

2 SIND.

A revised Irrigation Settlement for the Mehar Táluka of the Lárkhána District was sanctioned, and the present Settlement of the Kohistan tract of the Karáchi District was extended for 5 more years.

3. ALIENATION SETTLEMENTS.

In Sind and the Northern Division no sanads were issued. In Lárkhána 2 out of 30 free grants were resumed by Government, as was also one jághir in Sukkur. In Hyderabad 32 jághirs and grants lapsed to Government. Deducting the land re-granted, the gain to Government in this district was 26,914 acres. In the Central Division 36 sanads were issued in Poona and Násik. In addition to this, 159 sanads in respect of kadim allowances in alienated villages were issued or replaced. In Násik one sanad was issued to the holder of an inám village in pursuance of the orders of Government, and the Devasthan and Warshasan allowances were settled in three tálukas. In Ratnágiri 4 sanads were issued and 22 inám kowls were settled. There was no other Alienation Settlement work done during the year in the Southern Division.

4. LAND RECORDS.

Work in connection with the preparation of a Record of Rights was commenced during the year in one táluka of nearly every sub-division in all districts of the Presidency proper. As the work was in most cases quite new to the Village Officers and Circle Inspectors some little difficulty was experienced at first, and for this and other reasons it was not properly started till January 1904, with the result that it was not completely finished anywhere before the close of the fair season. In three tálukas of Ahmednagar and one each of Bijápur and Kánara the work was completed, and the announcement made before the end of July, while in several other districts the work was practically finished. The more frequent and minute sub-division of survey numbers in bágáyat and rice lands rendered difficult and delayed the work in districts where such lands are the rule rather than the exception. In some districts mapping was carried on at the same time as the preparation of the Record, but in others this had to be postponed till the Village Accountants have a better knowledge of Survey work. In no case was there any serious opposition to the work; but, on the other hand, there was no enthusiasm, and the attendance of interested parties was sometimes hard to secure in spite of the measures for that purpose authorised by the Act. Experience will make the work easier for all concerned, especially when all Village Accountants have received Survey training. In the year under report the ordinary táluka staff of Circle Inspectors and Village Accountants had in almost every case to be re-inforced in tálukas where the Record was being prepared. It is as yet rather early to judge of the accuracy of the work done. In some cases the supervising staff have not been able to do all the checking work laid down in the rules. But the average level of accuracy is reported to be high. The work is to be begun in the Sind Districts during the fair season of 1904-1905.

4. Waste Lands.

The following tables show the variations in the area of land under cultivation in the past two years:—

1902-1903.

Districts.	Total culturable area.	Occupied.	Balance of culturable waste.	Area taken up during the year.	Area relinquished during the year.
Northern Division.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Ahmedabad	1,529,108	1,363,888	165,221	24,354	7,260
Kaira	548,913	413,767	135,146	29,638	2,643
Panch Mahals	553,195	444,786	108,409	12,486	2,620
Broach	498,698	455,298	43,400	2,980	1,009
Surat	710,562	650,809	59,753	12,132	718
Thána	982,413	863,283	114,131	215	758
Total ...	4,822,889	4,196,831	626,060	81,805	15,008
Central Division.					
Ahmednagar	2,604,990	2,556,048	48,942	634	458
Khándesh	3,675,417	2,906,113	769,304	9,985	623
Násik	2,187,524	2,040,587	146,937	12,789	793
Poona	1,929,356	1,914,715	14,641	50	30
Sátára	1,422,510	1,401,471	21,039	106	353
Sholápur	2,108,864	2,088,357	20,507	337	2,527
Total ...	13,928,661	12,907,291	1,021,340	23,901	4,784

Districts.	Total culturable area.	Occupied.	Balance of culturable waste.	Area taken up during the year.	Area relinquished during the yea.
Southern Division.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Belgaum	1,239,713	1,169,216	70,497	432	609
Bijápur	2,198,772	2,137,748	61,024	588	26
Dhárwár	1,650,867	1,594,286	56,582	.....	247
Kánara	386,510	336,495	50,014	1,021	376
Kolába	755,078	720,655	34,423	407	.....
Ratnágiri	1,608,418	1,595,499	12,919	699	2
Total ...	7,839,358	7,553,899	285,459	3,147	1,260
Sind.					
Hyderabad	3,726,690	1,796,958	1,928,732	114,673	68,403
Karáchi	1,810,045	602,166	1,207,879	28,970	35,259
Lárkhána	2,040,709	1,104,052	936,656	36,244	31,896
Sukkur	1,739,710	670,443	1,069,267	31,255	44,234
Thar and Párkar	3,093,052	1,890,176	1,202,876	84,914	31,199
Upper Sind Frontier	1,196,047	812,981	383,065	18,503	29,488
Total ...	13,605,253	6,878,776	6,728,475	314,559	240,479

1903-1904.

Districts.	Total culturable area.	Occupied.	Balance of culturable waste.	Area taken up during the year.	Area relinquished during the year.
Northern Division.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Ahmedabad	1,529,501	1,380,680	148,820	27,376	2,861
Kaira	546,342	420,746	125,596	9,429	2,082
Panch Maháls	552,678	440,920	111,758	11,428	2,995
Broach	498,926	455,475	43,450	3,376	639
Surat	712,948	652,064	60,884	2,881	449
Thána	1,005,022	888,625	116,396	1,327	62
Total ...	4,845,417	4,238,510	606,904	55,817	9,088
Central Division.					
Ahmednagar	2,603,921	2,555,015	48,907	162	295
Khándesh	3,676,452	2,914,551	761,901	17,899	281
Násik	2,186,657	2,041,712	144,944	9,365	7,913
Poona	1,928,894	1,914,321	14,573	61	71
Sátára	1,425,558	1,403,766	21,791	783	31
Sholápur	2,109,279	2,093,761	15,518	5,810	405
Total ...	13,930,761	12,923,126	1,007,634	34,080	8,996
Southern Division.					
Belgaum	1,240,045	1,168,484	71,561	557	956
Bijápur	2,198,810	2,138,522	60,288	876	11
Dhárwár	1,651,140	1,593,297	57,843	482	122
Kánara	386,067	336,191	49,876	1,110	648
Kolaba	755,421	720,765	34,656	56	2
Ratnagiri	1,604,497	1,591,681	12,816	52	12
Total ...	7,835,980	7,548,940	287,040	3,133	1,751
Sind.					
Hyderabad	3,517,625	1,790,136	1,727,488	223,513	23,590
Karáchi	1,805,215	606,214	1,199,000	28,150	19,272
Lárkhána	2,042,712	1,110,692	932,020	25,225	20,589
Sukkur	1,744,907	707,727	1,037,180	40,152	8,065
Thar and Párkar	3,358,767	2,053,723	1,305,043	188,249	24,701
Upper Sind Frontier	1,206,913	852,096	354,816	44,034	15,786
Total ...	13,676,139	7,120,588	6,555,547	549,323	112,003

These tables show that there was a slight increase in the occupied area in all divisions save the Southern Division. The increase is visible in nearly all districts including those in Sind. The only noticeable case of decrease is in the Hyderabad figures, and even this is really trifling. The apparent decrease in Ratnágiri is believed to be due to a mistake in the figures of the previous year. The net result for the whole Presidency and Sind was an increase of 299,367 acres in the area under cultivation, the greater part of it being in Sind. The good rainfall in the Presidency and the favourable inundation in Sind account for this increase.

5. Wards and other Estates.

Besides the estates under the management of the Tálukdári Settlement Officer and of the Manager, Incumbered Estates, Sind, there were under management at the close of the year 71 Minor's Estates in the Northern Division, 8 in the Central Division, 6 in the Southern Division and 78 in Sind. In the majority of cases the person of the minor was not under the guardianship of the Collector but under that of a near relation or other guardian.

1.—Estates in charge of the Talukdari Settlement Officer.

General.

1. There were in all 613 estates under the management of the department with a nominal gross revenue of about Rs. 11,00,000, of which Rs. 9,25,000 were realised during the year under report. The improvement in agricultural conditions made possible a reduction in the amount of tagávi granted from Rs. 1,01,283 to Rs. 8,928, and also the recovery of Rs. 2,93,728 on account of tagávi and advances in Ahmedabad, and Rs. 20,014 on account of famine loans to Thakors in Kaira and Broach. As a result of the special enquiry made into the condition of the Ahmedabad Tálukdárs, Government sanctioned reductions amounting to 12 per cent. of the Jamas fixed at the Revision Settlement.

Estates under management.

2. There were 31 estates in Ahmedabad under management under Act VI of 1862, while 4 others were under management owing to debts due to Government. Rs. 3,035 were repaid during the year. The balance due to Government at the end of the year was Rs. 1,80,070 and that due to private creditors Rs. 22,749. There were 20 estates under management under Act XXI of 1881 in Kaira and two in Broach. The Kaira estates paid Rs. 11,464 to Government and reduced their debts to Rs. 90,579 due to Government and Rs. 4,863 due to private creditors. The Broach estates owed nothing to Government and only Rs. 8,570 to private persons. There were 53 estates under management under the Guardians and Wards Act, of which 43 were in Ahmedabad, 9 in Kaira and 1 in Broach. There were 242 estates under management under section 323, and 9 under section 504 of the Civil Procedure Code. The total decretal debts of these which remained unpaid amounted to Rs. 7,18,246.

Execution of decrees.

3. Decrees and darkhásts under execution under section 320 of the Civil Procedure Code, including 36 received during the year, reached a total of 708, of which 74 were returned to the Court, 83 were under enquiry and 551 under execution by management of the property concerned. In all Rs. 18,815 were paid to judgment-creditors during the year.

Miscellaneous estates.

4. There were also 219 miscellaneous estates under management under the Tálukdári Act and on account of tagávi advanced to the Tálukdárs and their tenants. One of these estates, the Gamph Estate, paid Rs. 72,000 to its creditors including Rs. 8,000 to Government.

Partition cases.

5. Six out of 15 partition cases pending during the year were disposed of.

2.—Incumbered Estates, Sind.

Estates under the management of district officers.

1. The receipts of the one estate under the management of the Collector of Karáchi were Rs. 28,369 and the expenditure Rs. 28,669. A loan of Rs. 15,000 was raised during the year. The closing balance was Rs. 4,177. The two estates under the Collector of Lárkána paid Rs. 16,512 in liquidation of debts and had a closing balance of Rs. 6,310. One estate came under the management of the Collector of Sukkur during the year.

Estates under the Manager of Incumbered Estates in Sind.

2. Fifteen new estates came under the Manager of Incumbered Estates in Sind and 40 were thrown out, so that 500 estates remained under management at the close of the year. Receipts amounted to Rs. 8,48,968 and expenditure to Rs. 8,00,264. Of the latter sum Rs. 50,173 and Rs. 1,20,774 were spent in liquidation of loans and private debts respectively. The amount due to Government on account of loans at the end of the year was Rs. 37,077. Besides this Rs. 67,450 were due on account of private loans.

6. Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Relation between landlords and tenants.

1. So far as any change can be noted in a single year in the relation between landlords and tenants, the good season of the year under report seems to have produced a slight improvement. While making the agriculturist less dependent on the sowkar, who in too many cases is the same person as his landlord, it has also put the landlord in a good humour by giving him his full rent, and in some cases enabling him to collect the arrears of past years. In all classes of tenure in which the rent paid is a fixed proportion of the actual produce, a good season is equally beneficial to landlord and tenant. In Sind this kind of tenure is very common, and consequently in very few cases have relations been strained, as the increase in the acreage of arable land, caused by the extension of the canal system, has given the cultivator a chance to defy his landlord if he attempts to raise his rent. The same happy state of affairs has prevailed in most districts of the Deccan and the Karnatak, where the ordinary cultivator is safe-guarded against a rack-renting landlord by his comparative willingness to leave his home and seek land to cultivate elsewhere, if necessary. In other districts where the sentiment of the people is strongly against leaving the villages of their birth, the favourable season, combined with a growing tendency to take as rent a proportion of the produce instead of cash, has somewhat improved the relations of landlord and tenant, though there were some indications of the growth of a spirit of opposition to the exactions of landlord in some of the Konkan districts. In some districts the mortgage transactions show an increase, but the probable explanation of this is that the money-lenders merely wished to bring to book outstanding debts. In the case of the tálukdári estates, the position of both landlords and tenants improved slightly as is shown by the better receipts and the smaller demand for tagávi. The relations between landlords and tenants on the whole seem during the year, if not to have grown more cordial, to have at least, with one or two exceptions, developed no signs of becoming really strained.

Working of Act VI of 1901.

2. In the Northern Division considerable progress was made with the re-settlement of land under Act VI of 1901. During the year ending on June 30th, 1904, in the Panch Mahals District 13,707 acres, and in the Ahmedabad District 4,934 acres, were voluntarily surrendered

and resettled on the non-transferable tenure, while the area resettled on this tenure after compulsory forfeiture amounted to 9,731 acres in the Kaira District and 5,597 acres in the Ahmedabad District. In the other districts of the Northern Division the success attained was less extensive. In Thána the area given out under this Act was supplemented by the area granted with a similar object on annual leases under the Woodland Settlement. In the other divisions cultivators have as yet failed to realise the advantages of the system, the only exception being in the case of the Násik District, where about 2,200 acres were settled on this tenure during the year. The total area resettled in the whole Presidency from the date of the passing of the Act till the end of June 1904 amounted to 250,980 acres.

Assistance and other suits.

3. Though figures are not available for all districts, there is some ground for supposing that the number of assistance suits was not so large as in previous years. In the Poona District, for example, they decreased from 1,240 in the previous year to 751. A similar remark applies to ejectment suits, which in the three districts of Poona, Ahmednagar and Kaira, for which figures are available, fell from 1,548 to 1,327 in number.

Transfer of tenant's rights.

4. The registration figures which show a considerable decrease in the number of mortgages for Rs. 100 and upwards, seem to indicate an improvement in the condition of the revenue-paying classes. The increase in the number of registered sales is not of importance in this connection, as, though it is considerable, it is almost confined to the Khándesh District, and for the most part mainly represents the mortgage and other transactions of past years. There appears to be a check in the transfer of tenants' rights to non-agriculturists. This is especially noticeable in some of the districts of Sind, where the introduction of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act, combined with other causes, has had the effect of considerably reducing the number of both mortgages and sales.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

For—

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1901-1902, PART II, PAGES 98—100.

1. Course of Legislation.

Five Acts were passed by the Council of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations and assented to by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India during the year.

These were—

(1) Act No. I of 1903 (An Act further to amend the Bombay Ábkári Act, 1878).

(2) Act No. II of 1903 (An Act further to amend the Bombay Boiler Inspection Act, 1891).

(3) Act No. III of 1903 (An Act to further amend the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901).

(4) Act No. IV of 1903 (An Act to provide for the preparation and maintenance of a record of rights in the lands of the Bombay Presidency).

(5) Act No. V of 1903 (An Act to further amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888).

The object of Act No. I of 1903 was to include "methylated spirits" in the definition of "liquor," and to amplify the definition of "spirits" so as to cause it to cover spirits whether denaturalised or not.

Act No. II of 1903 was passed with a view to exempt automotor-cars propelled by steam from the restrictions imposed by the Bombay Boiler Inspection Act, 1891.

Act No. III of 1903 was designed to repeal certain unnecessary words in section 52 of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, which had been found to lead to difficulties in practice, and to extend the power of Government to provide for the administration of notified areas consistently with the general provisions of the Act.

The object of Act No. IV of 1903 was to facilitate the compilation of a correct record of rights and interests in lands to which the Act would extend, it having been decided, with the approval of the Government of India, to prepare and maintain in future such a record.

Act V of 1903 was passed in order to raise the maximum salary allowable to the Municipal Executive Engineer from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 so as to secure an efficient person for the post.

Four Bills were introduced into the Council of His Excellency the Governor during the year commencing April 1st, 1903, and there was pending from the previous year one Bill which was subsequently withdrawn.

The Bills introduced were—

(1) Bill No. IV of 1903 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901).

(2) Bill No. V of 1903 (A Bill for further shortening the language used in Bombay Acts, and for other purposes).

(3) Bill No. VI of 1903 (A Bill to amend the Khotí Settlement Act, 1880).

(4) Bill No. VII of 1903 (A Bill to regulate the use of motor vehicles in the Bombay Presidency).

All the above Bills except the first, *viz.*, Bill No. IV of 1903, the consideration of which has been postponed, were read a third time and passed at a meeting of the Local Legislative Council on the 27th February 1904. The Bill which was withdrawn was Bill No. II of 1902 (A Bill to extinguish the rights of the public to navigate the Worli Tidal Creek).

2. Police.

For details *see* the Annual Reports on the Bombay District Police and the Bombay City Police for the year 1903 and the Tables under VII.—Police—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-1904.

I.—Mofussil, Sind and Railway Police.

Strength and cost.

1. The total strength of the Police Force for the whole Presidency remained practically unaltered at 22,306 notwithstanding certain changes in the Central Division, Sind and on Railways. In the Central Division the appointment of a Court Prosecutor was sanctioned for Násik and some temporary Police previously employed were permanently added to the force of the Poona District. In Sind, additional Police were sanctioned for Hyderabad and Thar and Párkar. On Railways, a force of 1 Chief Constable, 10 Head Constables and 56 Constables was transferred to Punjáb owing to the transfer of the Bhatinda-Ferozpur Section and the Kotkapura-Fazilka Branch to the North-Western Railway. The above force was maintained at a total cost of Rs. 43,75,408 as against Rs. 46,75,436. The decrease, so far as can be ascertained, is merely an account one. In addition to the sanctioned strength, a large number of extra Policemen was entertained in the Central Division, Southern Division, Sind and on Railways for Plague Duty. In Sind a special Police Force was sanctioned for the Riverain forests as a tentative measure.

Education.

2. There is again a slight improvement in the education of the force as compared with the previous year. 3,318 officers and 8,269 men can read and write as against 3,302 officers and 7,995 men in 1902, giving a percentage of 53 as compared with 51 last year.

Ball practice.

3. All the districts in the Presidency proper competed at the Annual Presidency Competition shooting for prizes, 14 districts competing with Snider Smooth Bores and 4 with Martini Henri Smooth Bores. Rifle Squads Competition was held this year for the first time, 12 districts competing. In the districts competing with Snider Smooth Bores, the number of men rose to 696 from 588 as compared with the same districts in 1902, while the number qualifying as marksmen rose from 198 to 245. In the four districts competing with Martini Henri Smooth Bores 456 competed, out of whom 307 qualified as marksmen. Sind had a separate Annual Shooting Competition, where the number of marksmen decreased from 371 in 1902 to 240 in 1903.

Punishments.

4. The total number of punishments inflicted (3,300) exceeds that of the previous year by 37. There is a rise of 191 punishments in the Northern Division and a decrease of 143 in Sind.

Rewards.

5. Rewards by promotion decreased from 166 in 1902 to 127 in 1903. 789 money rewards were granted in the Presidency proper including Railways as against 616 in the previous year. The number of Good Conduct Tickets granted was 2,420 as against 2,974 in the previous year. In Sind, the number of money rewards including Good Service Tickets was 755 as against 598 in 1902.

Total crime, cognizable and non-cognizable.

6. The total number of cognizable and non-cognizable offences reported during the year was 120,440 as against 135,980 in the previous year, showing a net decrease of 15,540. This decrease is contributed to by all the Divisions and Railways. In Sind crime has remained almost stationary, 25,056 cases being reported in 1903 as against 25,244 in 1902.

Cognizable crime.

7. The total number of cases instituted before or taken up by Magistrates was 9,938, giving a decrease of 428 cases on the figures of the preceding year. This decrease is noticed in the Central Division, Sind and on Railways, while the Southern Division shows an increase of 443 cases, the Northern Division remaining almost stationary.

Police cognizable cases.

8. The total number of cognizable cases reported to the Police or taken up by them was 34,730 as compared with 38,634 in the previous year. The above number is made up of 27,064 cases under Indian Penal Code and 7,666 under Class VI as compared with 31,170 and 7,464 respectively in the previous year. The decrease under "All classes" is general, but is most marked in the Central Division.

Police cases for disposal.

9. Including pending cases of the previous year, the complaints for disposal totalled 37,980 as compared with 42,051 in the preceding year. All but 181 were investigated. In only 12 cases as against 35 in the previous year, was Police action ordered by Magistrates after the Police had refused to investigate. Out of 37,980 cases for disposal, 30,203 are Indian Penal Code cases and 7,777 fall under Class VI as compared with 34,489 and 7,562 respectively in the previous year.

Police cases struck off.

10. Cases struck off during the year under report numbered 13,145 as compared with 13,494 in the previous year; of these 12,255 are under Indian Penal Code and 890 under Class VI.

Maliciously false cases.

11. "Maliciously false" cases amount to 891 as compared with 950 in the preceding year, the largest number being in Sind, *viz.*, 403. The average ratio of false cases to Police cognizable cases for disposal for the whole Presidency has further risen from 32 per cent. to 34 per cent. in the year under review.

Real cases for disposal.

12. Eliminating cases "struck off," the total amount of real crime for disposal amounted to 24,835 cases as against 28,557 in the previous year; 17,948 being under Indian Penal Code and 6,887 under Class VI as compared with 21,853 and 6,704 in the preceding year. These figures give a total decrease of 3,722 cases in the year under report. This decrease is spread over all the Divisions, Sind and Railways, but is particularly noticeable in Central Division where there was a fall of 2,114 cases.

Success of the Police in dealing with offences.

13. There is a slight falling off in the measure of success obtained by the Police in dealing with cases before the Courts in the year 1903. Altogether 17,384 cases were disposed of by trial, of which 13,673 ended in conviction, giving a percentage of 78·65 as compared with 80·56 in the previous year. This falling off is also noticeable in Indian Penal Code and Class VI cases. Under more important heads of crime, it may be observed that out of 341 cases under Murder and Cognate offences for disposal, 326 were brought to trial and convictions were obtained in 60 per cent. as against 56 in the previous year. Under Dacoity, there were 249 real cases for disposal; of these only 153 were brought to trial and 88 ended in conviction, the percentage of convictions being 57 as against 77 in the previous year. For this remarkable falling off, the Central Division and Sind are responsible. Under Robberies the average percentage of convictions to cases tried in the whole Presidency has fallen from 73 to 55. This falling off is general, but is most marked in Sind. Under Burglaries, there were altogether 5,034 real cases for disposal; of this number, 1,476 were brought to trial and 1,137 ended in conviction giving a percentage of 77 as against 81 in the previous year. Under Thefts and Receiving Stolen Property, the average percentage of conviction stands at 80 and 70 as against 82 and 74, respectively, in the previous year.

Persons.

14. The total number of persons appearing before the Courts in connection with all crimes, cognizable and non-cognizable, was 193,767 as compared with 212,081 in the previous year. The number of persons concerned in cases reported to Magistrates or taken up by them direct was 19,751 as compared with 21,157 last year. The number of persons for disposal in Police Cognizable cases was 32,052 as compared with 39,002 in the preceding year. Of these 27,456 were tried and 18,955 convicted, giving a percentage of 69·03 as against 71·21 in the previous year.

Property stolen and recovered.

15. The total value of property stolen in cognizable cases amounted to Rs. 16,78,390 as against Rs 18,64,145 in the previous year, giving a net decrease of Rs. 1,85,755. Total recoveries amounted to Rs. 6,04,343 or 36 per cent., which shows an improvement of about 3 per cent. on the results of last year. The amount of property stolen in connection with non-cognizable crime was valued at Rs. 14,717 as against Rs. 50,912 in the preceding year. Recoveries amounted to Rs. 4,933, giving a percentage of 33·51 as against nearly 49 in the previous year.

II.—Rural Police.

In Sind there is no Village Police. In the rest of the Presidency this body is an unorganised force, only useful as a rule by reason of their local knowledge and the fact that they generally receive first information as to any offences committed.

Rewards of various kinds for good work were granted in 214 cases, while the number of punishments for failing to give assistance rose from 195 to 220.

III.—Additional Police.

In Sind a total force of 15 head constables and 66 constables was imposed on various village communities, with the object of both punishing and preventing offences. In the Presidency proper 11 constables in all were similarly employed, some in the Borsad Táluka of Kaira and some in the Ránebennur Táluka of Dhárwár.

IV.—Bombay City Police.

Establishment.

1. There was no change in the strength and distribution of the force. It is anticipated that an increase in strength will shortly be necessary to cope with the difficulties caused by the suburban development of the city.

Conduct and health.

2. Conduct and health both show an improvement. Punishments of all kinds decreased from 1,018 to 800, while rewards rose from 217 to 900. The daily average on the sick list among the native constabulary was 38 as compared with 41. The new Police hospital building was approaching completion at the end of the year.

Cognizable crime.

3. There were in all 42,842 cognizable cases for disposal—an increase of 11,059 on the figures of the last year. This increase is entirely due to offences under the local Acts. The total number of cases taken up by the Police was 37,330 and the percentage of convictions rose from 92·44 to 95·26. Cases under the Penal Code decreased from 4,852 to 4,341, while the percentage of convictions rose from 71·90 to 73·56. Cases under the head of Class VI and Miscellaneous increased from 21,434 to 32,949 and the percentage of convictions rose to 98·13. Serious offences of all kinds, save those against property, decreased, while the percentage of convictions increased.

Non-cognizable crime.

4. Non-cognizable cases increased from 8,694 to 9,097, while the conviction percentage improved from 44·08 to 49·21. The persons concerned in these cases numbered 11,907 and of them 4,857 were convicted.

Stolen property.

5. The aggregate value of property alleged to have been stolen increased slightly to Rs. 2,89,376. The percentage of recoveries showed a further improvement from 59·29 to 65·65.

Criminal Identification Department.

6. The work of this department showed a continued increase. It identified 474 prisoners against 413 in 1902. Prisoners received for identification numbered 2,857, but of these only 535 are believed to have had former convictions against them.

Inquests.

7. Inquests decreased from 385 to 313. Besides these the Police disposed of 224 cases of simple accidental death or 50 less than in the previous year. These were 106 suicides against 119 in 1902.

Arms and explosives.

8. The number of licenses to possess arms fell by 10 to 485. Petroleum licenses decreased by 42, while licenses under the Explosives Act increased by 19.

Pilgrims and mendicants.

9. Pilgrims leaving Bombay for the Hedjaz under passports numbered 8,701 and those returning *vid* Bombay 6,478. During the year 1,823 subjects of Native States in Gujarát and Káthiáwár and 802 mendicants from various places in British territory were deported from Bombay under Police control. The deportation of mendicants has been since stopped.

V.—Aden Police.

Information as to the strength, cost and working of the Aden Police has been given in Chapter I of this report.

VI.—Vagrants.

Government Male Work-house.

1. At the beginning of the year there were 17 vagrants in the Work-house, 130 were admitted during the year, making a total of 147. Of these 25 deserted, 41 were convicted, 14 were discharged to the care of friends, 19 found employment and 10 were deported. In all 123 were disposed of and 24 remained at the end of the year.

Female Work-house.

2. There were no inmates remaining in the Female Work-house from the previous year. Two were received during the year, both of whom were discharged before its close.

Expenditure.

3. The total cost in connection with the working of the Vagrancy Act was Rs. 11,406 against Rs. 7,067 in 1902, the increase being due to deportation charges.

3. Wild Animals and Venomous Snakes.

For details *see* tables under XX.—Wild Animals and Snakes—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

1. During the year 1903, 76 persons were reported killed by wild animals and 1,008 by venomous snakes, the figures for the previous year being 132 and 1,160, respectively. In Khándesh there were 23 deaths by wild animals and this was more than in any other district. In the previous year Khándesh reported 57 such deaths. As usual Ratnágiri with 177 deaths from snake-bites was in this respect the most unfortunate of the districts. The number of cattle killed by wild animals and snakes fell from 6,376 to 4,673. Hyderabad, Thar and Párkar and Kánara were the most affected districts.

2. Rewards to the amount of Rs. 2,535 were paid for the destruction of 399 wild animals including 34 tigers, 156 leopards and panthers, and 140 wolves. In the previous year Rs. 2,651 were paid for the destruction of 608 wild animals. 9,954 snakes were reported as destroyed and Rs. 150 were paid in rewards by Municipalities.

3. Four thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine licenses to carry arms for the destruction of wild animals and the protection of crops were in force, or 149 more than in the previous year.

4. Chemical Analysis.

For details *see* the Annual Report of the Chemical Analyser to Government and tables under VIII.—Medico-legal investigations—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

The number of analyses made decreased by 53 to 4,620, the decrease being visible under all heads, save Customs and A'bkári examinations, which increased by 557. There were 181 cases of suspected human poisoning and 88 cases of suspected animal poisoning, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 220 and 169, respectively. Of the former class poison was actually detected in 77 or 42·5 per cent. of the cases: of the latter, poison was detected in 50 cases, in 43 of which arsenic was the poison used. Two hundred and eleven samples of water were analysed, of which 74 were classed as bad. Other work done included 543 examinations of Government stores and 2,166 examinations of articles for the Customs and A'bkári Department.

5. Criminal Justice.

For details *see* the Annual Report on Criminal Justice and tables under IV—Criminal Justice—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

Number and constitution of courts.

1. There was no material change in the number and constitution of the criminal courts.

Number of offences.

2. The total number of offences reported was 162,843 or 40 less than in the previous year. Offences against property decreased by 3,095. The chief other classes of offence which

showed a decrease were criminal trespass (1,429), offences under the Cantonment Act (731), the Bombay Municipal Act (5,398), and the Salt Act (520). There were noticeable increases in the number of offences of criminal force and assault (506), of criminal misappropriation of property (709), under the European Vagrancy Act (111), the Public Conveyances Act (948), and the Presidency Towns Police Acts (9,022). Murders fell from 208 to 197.

Offences reported true.

3. The number of offences reported as true rose slightly to 148,445, or about 91 per cent. of the total number of offences reported, the percentage being practically the same as in the previous year. The proportion of true offences to population varied from 1 to 15 in Bombay to 1 to 636 in Ratnágiri.

Persons involved in cases.

4. The number of cases brought to trial was 138,208 and the number of persons involved in them was 244,163 as compared with 148,254 and 255,882 respectively in the previous year. Of these persons, 45 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, 41 per cent. were convicted and 12 per cent. remained under trial, the percentages for the previous year being 46, 39 and 11 respectively.

Miscellaneous cases.

5. The number of miscellaneous cases under the Criminal Procedure Code fell from 3,060 to 2,545. Persons involved in proceedings for security for good behaviour numbered 2,499 as against 3,213. The number of persons ordered to give security fell from 2,588 to 2,212.

Cases decided.

6. The total number of cases decided during the year fell from 147,299 to 138,113. Of these 98 per cent. were disposed of by Magistrates. Of those convicted, 62 per cent. were tried summarily. This percentage was 36 in 1901-02 and 52 in 1902-03. The average duration of cases fell from 28 to 7¼ days.

Punishments.

7. Sentences of death and transportation were passed against 58 and 127 persons as compared with 54 and 216 in 1902-1903 respectively. In all 100,104 persons were convicted or 1,456 more than in the previous year, but there was a considerable decrease in sentences indicating serious crime, *i.e.*, in sentences of transportation, imprisonment, and whipping. Fines imposed rose from Rs. 3,54,761 to Rs. 3,80,854, but the amount paid in compensation fell from Rs. 24,869 to Rs. 18,803. The percentage of whippings to the total number of punishments was 16·45 as against 18·22 in the previous year.

Appeals and revision.

8. Of appeals decided, 32 per cent. were rejected and in 33 per cent. the sentences were confirmed, the percentages for the previous year being 41 and 32. The number of appeals by Government was 37 as against 28. 2,520 persons applied for revision. The sentences were enhanced in the case of 31 persons, reduced in the case of 145, and reversed in the case of 266.

Trials by jury and assessors.

9. The number of persons tried by jury and with the aid of assessors was 379 and 1,257 respectively. In the High Court the verdict of the jury was approved in all cases, and in the Courts of Session in 88 per cent. of the cases as against 94 per cent. in the previous year. In cases tried with assessors, the Judge agreed with all or some of the assessors in 80 per cent. and differed from all in 20 per cent.

6. Prisons—Civil and Criminal.

For details *see* the Report of the Bombay Jail Department for 1903 and tables under V—Jails—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

Population.

1. The total population of all classes of prisoners confined in prisons of all kinds and civil jails fell from 102,620 to 94,258. Further the daily average population fell by 2,414 to 9,188. The cheapness of food caused by the good season was the chief cause of the decrease. Admissions into all prisons, save the Kárwár Prison and the Common Prison, Bombay, declined in number. The decrease is most marked in the case of the prisons of Ahmedabad (905), Yerávda (439), Dhulia (383), and Dhárwár (287). Admissions of female prisoners were 1,185 against 1,471 in 1902. Civil prisoners admitted numbered 1,067. The percentage of prisoners to free population shows a further fall from 0·187 to 0·153.

Disposal of prisoners.

2. On January 1st, 1903, 1,845 prisoners were released as an act of clemency in celebration of the coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor. Among those thus released there were no habitual convicts. During the year 176 male and 7 female prisoners were transported to the Andamans. Transfers rose by 646 in number chiefly owing to the increase of the strength of the Deccan Gang to 1,200. Escapes fell from 6 to 5, and executions from 40 to 34. The number of prisoners released under the remission rules shows a decrease of 326 to 2,227, and that of those released on expiry of sentence one of 3,819 to 12,111. A new system of special marks whereby a prisoner who is not punished during the year earns 15 days' remission in addition to the remission that can be earned by ordinary marks was introduced and was appreciated by the prisoners.

Habitual criminals.

3. The number of convicts identified as habitual offenders before conviction was 1,948 against 2,373 and the number identified as such after arrival in jail was 521 against 655; while 40 persons against 74 confessed themselves to be habitual offenders after arrival in jail. In the Presidency proper 532 persons were identified by means of finger tip impressions as compared with 425 in 1902.

Punishments.

4. Offences by convicts punished by the criminal courts increased from 20 to 36. The Superintendents of Prisons and Jails inflicted 9,391 punishments, of which 77 per cent. were of

the minor class, against 10,195 in the previous year. The number of floggings fell from 129 to 78, the chief cause being that with the diminution of overcrowding punishment in cells has been employed instead.

Convict officers.

5. The average number of prisoners employed as convict officers fell from 1,027 to 892. The ratio per cent. of this average number to the average number of convicts shows a slight increase both among males and females. The number of reductions and other punishments awarded fell from 960 to 828.

Financial.

6. The gross expenditure fell from Rs. 8,06,439 to Rs. 6,76,356. The cost per head, however, increased from Rs. 70 to Rs. 74-3-3 owing to the smaller average number of prisoners confined. The cost per head for dieting fell from Rs. 33-14-5 to Rs. 30-10-5. The total cash earnings of prisoners fell from Rs. 83,249 to Rs. 62,506. The decrease in earnings is generally due to the smaller number of prioners The Yerávda Prison Factory made a profit of Rs. 5,664 against one of Rs. 7,990 in 1902 The Yerávda Press shows cash loss of Rs. 10,438, but in view the large stock of printed forms in hand at the end of the year its net profits were really Rs. 49,978. The profit of the quinine industry in the Yerávda and Hyderabad Prisons fell from Rs. 2,909 to Rs. 1,757.

Vital statistics.

7. The health of the prisoners showed a general improvement. With a daily average strength of 9,188 prisoners there were only 4,865 admissions into hospital as compared with a daily average strength of 11,602 and 7,916 admissions in 1902. The daily average number of sick fell from 326·9 to 204·0. The total number of deaths fell from 327 to 237, giving a ratio of 25·8 per mille against one of 28·2. The evils of overcrowding, though still serious in 7 out of the 15 principal prisons, were less than in the previous year. An epidemic of pneumonia in the Sind Gang caused 33 deaths. There were 10 cases of plague, of which 8 ended fatally. Owing to regular dosing with quinine of the men on extra-mural work, admissions into hospital of malarial fever patients in the Yerávda Central Prison fell from 468 in 1902 to 66 in 1903.

7. Civil Justice.

For details *see* the Annual Report on Civil Justice and tables under III—Civil Justice—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

Number and constitution of civil courts.

1. There was no material change in the number and constitution of the civil courts.

Number and value of suits.

2. The total number of suits instituted during the year fell by 4,599 to 182,971, 65 per cent. of the whole decrease being in the four districts to which the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act applies. The decrease was due to the favourable season and partly also to the rise in the number of conciliation agreements. There was a material decrease in suits for money or moveable property and a material increase in mortgage suits and suits for immoveable property. The aggregate value of suits rose by about 17 lákhs to 383 lákhs.

Disposal of suits.

3. The number of suits disposed of was 184,003 or about 4,000 less than in the previous year. The percentage of contested suits to the whole number was 30 or about the same as in 1902-1903. The average duration of contested and uncontested suits decreased slightly to 163 and 89 days respectively. The proportion of suits to population varied from 1 to 36 in Bombay, to 1 to 503 in Thar and Párkar. 19,402 miscellaneous suits were decided as against 21,151 in 1902.

Appeals.

4. Out of 9,299 appeals 5,501 were decided. In 2,706 cases the decrees were confirmed and in 824 they were reversed. The average duration of appeals fell from 240 to 214 days. Miscellaneous appeals numbered 264 and of these 192 were disposed of.

Applications for execution of decrees.

5. 203,329 applications for execution of decrees were disposed of, the arrears being reduced by nearly 3,000. Applications disposed of by transfer and under the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act numbered 315 and 2,315 respectively. Of the remainder 66 per cent. proved wholly infructuous, while in 14 per cent. satisfaction in full was obtained. The total amount recovered in execution was over Rs. 50 lákhs, or 8¾ lákhs more than in the last year. Sales of immoveable property increased slightly to 5,557. The number of persons imprisoned in execution of decrees was 895, a decrease of 10; while that of persons arrested but released without imprisonment rose by 229 to 2,746. The number of applications for declaration of insolvency disposed of was 206 : 46 per cent. of the applications were granted and 54 per cent. rejected.

Receipts and expenditure.

6. The total receipts of all Courts—Civil, Criminal and Revenue—rose by about Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 38¾ lákhs. The expenditure fell by Rs. 90,000 to 48 lákhs. The increase in the receipts is partly due to the rise in the value of suits instituted during the year.

2.—Execution of Decrees of Civil Courts by the Revenue Department.

During the year 6,238 civil court decrees were referred to the Collectors for execution as compared with 6,073 in 1902-1903, making with the arrears of the previous year, a total of 16,125 decrees for disposal. The number actually disposed of rose from 4,850 to 6,271. There was again an increase from 1,917 to 2,618 in the number of decrees settled by mutual agreement, the judgment-creditors remitting 7 per cent. of the amount of their claims. Property was sold in satisfaction of decrees in 1,874 cases, while 1,743 decrees were returned to the civil courts.

The total area of land sold in satisfaction of decrees was 16,915 acres bearing an assessment of Rs. 26,475, and the prices realised totalled Rs 6,45,707, or 24 times the assessment. In the previous year only 21 times the assessment was realised and the inference is that debtors have not lost their land so cheaply. The rise is however confined to the Presidency proper, the Sind figures being stationary.

3.—Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act.

Suits.

1. There was a decrease of 1,675 from 15,188 to 13,513 in the total number of suits instituted. The greatest decrease was in the Ahmednagar District (1,182); Sholápur (421) and Sátára (241) also show decreases, while Poona shows an increase of 169. Of these suits 7,738 or 57·3 per cent. were under Chapter II. The number of suits against agriculturists was almost equal to that of those against non-agriculturists. The proportion of *ex parte* decisions in suits against agriculturists was 1·7 per cent.: in 14 per cent. of the cases the agriculturists admitted the claims made against them, while they contested 44·4 per cent. In 60 per cent. of the cases the defendants were examined in accordance with the provisions of the Act. In 44 per cent. inquiry was made into the past history of the transactions, with the result that in suits on mortgage-bonds the claims were reduced by about 19 per cent., and in cases of simple bonds by about 35 per cent. Putting aside rejections, withdrawals and dismissals there were 285 redemption suits under Chapter II, in which redemption was allowed.

Details of working.

2. The average duration of contested suits rose from 133 to 159 days and that of uncontested suits from 79 to 94 days. The increase is due to the interruption of business by plague. The average cost of litigation for a claim of Rs. 100 was Rs. 16-3-4 in suits against non-agriculturists and Rs. 10-6-6 in suits against agriculturists, while in redemption suits the average was Rs. 8-1-3. The number of darkhasts (17,248) filed during the year shows a decrease of 12·1 per cent. Satisfaction in full or part was obtained in 33·6 per cent., while the remaining 66·4 per cent. proved infructuous. The sum recovered with and without the issue of process was Rs. 2,80,931, or Rs. 15,546 more than in the previous year. There were 148 applications for the attachment of standing crops, out of which 114 were disposed of, the proportion of successful applications being 63·1 per cent. against 66 per cent. in 1902. These cases were mostly settled by compromise and there were sales in 8 cases only.

Munsifs and conciliators.

3. At the end of the year there were 92 Village Munsifs. They disposed of 3,555 suits, or 1,124 less than in the previous year. *Ex parte* decisions were given in 8 per cent. of the cases, while 651 cases were contested. The number of conciliators rose to 256. They received 29,553 applications or 1,642 more than in the previous year. Ninety-six of them were invested during the year with special powers to compel attendance. Where both parties appeared agreements were effected in 73 per cent. of the cases. Claims of the value of Rs. 6,58,880 were settled for Rs. 5,49,467, showing an abatement of 16·6 per cent. The provisions of the Act relating to Village Munsifs and to conciliators were during the year extended to the Khándesh District, but not enough work was done to enable any estimate of the effect of the measure to be made.

Registration figures.

4. The registration figures show a further tendency to decrease in agriculturists' indebtedness. There was a decrease of 6·2 per cent. in the number of all kinds of instruments registered and one of 4·6 per cent. in their value. The value of mortgage-deeds registered shows a decrease of nearly Rs. 3 lákhs from the figures of the previous year and one of Rs. 42 lákhs from those of the famine year of 1897. Similarly the value of simple money bonds shows a decrease of Rs. 1¼ lákhs from the figures of 1902 and one of Rs. 14 lákhs from the figures of 1897. The decrease in mortgage-deeds is attributable to the good season, while that in money-bonds is partly at least explained by the large amount of tagái distributed in recent years. Sale-deeds, however, increased slightly in value in Poona and Ahmednagar, while the figures for Khándesh as to sale-deeds of Rs. 100 and over in value show an increase of over Rs. 6 lákhs as compared with 1902.

8. Registration.

For details *see* Annual Report on Registration for 1903-1904 and tables under IX.—Registration—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

1.—Registration under Act III of 1877.

Number of deeds registered.

1. The total number of registrations fell from 166,092 to 161,593, the principal decreases occurring in Belgaum, Dhárwár and Sholápur. The decrease is attributable to the prevalence of plague and the recovery of the ryots from the effects of past bad seasons combined with the liberal distribution of tagai. In 18, however, of the 28 districts slight increases took place. The number of sale-deeds increased by 5 per cent. to 53,000. The increase was chiefly in the Khándesh District where the introduction of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act alarmed the sowkárs. In mortgages of Rs. 100 and upwards there was a further decline both in number and value. These documents have fallen from an average of 64,000 in number and of Rs. 340 lákhs in value for the ten years ending in 1899 to 42,000 in number and Rs. 245 lákhs in value.

Value of deeds registered.

2. The aggregate value of all transactions rose from Rs. 869 lákhs to Rs. 886 lákhs. The average value of each transaction showed a further rise from Rs. 528 to Rs. 548.

Refusals to register.

3. The number of refusals to register rose from 537 to 543. There were 128 appeals, and in 99 cases registration was ordered.

New district.

4. The district and sub-district of Kolhápur were constituted during the year.

Prosecutions.

5. There was one prosecution for an offence under the Registration Act, in which the accused was sentenced to 4 months' rigorous imprisonment.

Examination of offices.

6. The Inspector-General and Superintendents examined 20 offices of Registrars, while 458 examinations were made by various inspecting officers.

Receipts and expenditure.

7. Receipts rose slightly to Rs. 4,96,628 while expenditure fell slightly to Rs. 2,58,315.

2.—Registration under Act XVII of 1879.

Number of deeds registered.

1. In the four Dekkhan districts of Poona, Ahmednagar, Sátára and Sholápur registrations show a further fall from 102,000 to 90,000. The decrease was general, but in Sholápur exceeded 30 per cent.; it is ascribed partly to plague and partly to the grant of tagái. Deeds of sale have further decreased and have almost fallen to the level which preceded the famine. Mortgages with possession were 30 per cent. and mortgages without possession 50 per cent. below the level of famine years. Leases not exceeding one year which increased abnormally in times of distress remain about the same. Bonds have further fallen in number from 7,300 to 5,500. Transactions where both parties were agriculturists were 40,000, while transactions where one party was a non-agriculturist numbered 33,500.

Value of deeds registered.

2. The aggregate value of all documents registered fell from Rs. 49 lákhs to Rs. 45¾ lákhs. The average value of each document rose from Rs. 48 to Rs. 50.

3. Inspecting officers examined 226 offices.

Financial.

4. The deficit on the working of the Act rose from Rs. 19,000 to Rs. 21,000, owing to the decrease in the number of deeds registered.

3.—Joint Stock Companies.

General.

1. At the beginning of the year there were 401 Companies carrying on business: 21 went into liquidation, 19 that were under liquidation were finally dissolved, and one Company was struck off the register under the orders of Government. Twenty new Companies were registered during the year. At the end of the year there were 399 Companies carrying on business.

Number of documents registered and fees.

2. The number of documents of all kinds registered decreased by 6 to 885. Receipts rose from Rs. 7,178 to Rs. 9,972, owing to the increase in the number of new Companies registered.

Prosecutions.

3. Three Provident Societies in the Kaira District were prosecuted for failing to fulfil the requirements of sections 63, 65 and 69 of the Companies Act, and fines were imposed in all cases.

9. Local Board Administration.

For details *see* the Annual Report on Local Boards for 1903-1904 and tables under XVIII.—Local Boards—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

General.

1. There were 24 District Local Boards and 207 Táluka Local Boards as in the last year. They consisted in all of 3,569 members, of whom 42 were *ex-officio*, 1,928 were nominated, and 1,599 were elected. In Thar and Párkar (except the Mirpur Khás Táluka), the Upper Sind Frontier, the Panch Mahál, the Peint Táluka of Násik, and in Kánara (save the tálukas of Kárwár and Kumta) the elective system is not in force. Official members numbered 765 and non-official 2,804. During the year new Boards were constituted in all Sind districts save Lárkána, in the districts of Ahmedabad, Surat, Ahmednagar, Sátára and Ratnágiri and in the tálukas of Kárwár and Kumta in the Kánara District. The percentage of voters who exercised their rights varied from 52·05 in Kárwár Táluka to 11·1 in Surat. The number of District and Táluka Local Board meetings averaged, respectively, 2·17 and 7·31 in Sind, 4 and 5 in the Northern Division, 3 and 4 in the Central Division, and 3·5 and 6·14 in the Southern Division. The average attendance at meetings varied from 8·07 in the Northern Division to 6·32 in Sind.

Income.

2. The aggregate income of the Boards was Rs. 48,00,156 against Rs. 48,96,941 in the previous year. The incidence of taxation was lowest in the Cháchro and Párkar Tálukas (Re. 0-0-2) and highest in Broach (Re. 0-9-10).

Expenditure.

3. The total actual expenditure was Rs. 45,81,112 against Rs. 44,89,972, while the closing balance was Rs. 21,31,492 against Rs. 19,12,488. The District Board of Sátára was the only Board the closing balance of which was below the prescribed minimum.

4. The principal items of expenditure were: Education, Rs. 16,03,776 against Rs. 16,01,300 in 1902-1903; Medical Relief, Rs. 2,94,946 against Rs. 2,85,549; Civil Works, Rs. 21,92,125 against Rs. 21,16,980; and Water-supply, Rs. 2,22,891 against Rs. 2,35,616.

10. Municipal Administration.

For details *see* the Administration Report of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay for the year 1903-1904 and the Report on Municipal Taxation and Expenditure for the Bombay Presidency including Sind for the year 1903-1904, and tables under XVII.—Municipalities—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

1.—Bombay Municipality.

General. 1. There were during the year 67 meetings of the Corporation, 55 of the Standing Committee, 142 of Committees of the Corporation, and 65 of Sub-Committees of the Standing Committee.

Finance: (a) General. 2. The revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 84,82,625 and the expenditure to Rs. 84,31,389, the net result being a surplus of Rs. 51,235, which increased the closing balance to Rs. 23,00,702. The result was gratifying in view of the fact that the Budget Estimate anticipated a deficit of Rs. 3,02,875.

(b) Income. 3. As compared with the actual receipts of the previous year, there was an increase in income of Rs. 3,06,937; of this Rs. 2,64,793 or 86·2 per cent. were obtained from Property Taxes alone, owing to a careful revision of assessment of properties in the City on the lines of valuations made for acquisitions by the City Improvement Trust. The rest of the increase was principally derived from Wheel-tax, Tolls, and Market receipts. The income realised was the highest ever received by the Municipality at the prevailing rates of taxation. A permanent increase of over Rs. 4 lákhs in the principal sources of income is anticipated.

(c) Expenditure. 4. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 84,31,389, a net decrease of Rs. 22,008 on the figures of the previous year. Permanent increases are fairly counterbalanced by permanent decreases with the exception of a permanent increase of Rs. 40,000 as interest on loans.

(d) Loan expenditure. 5. Expenditure on loan works increased by nearly one lákh to Rs. 6,45,522, the increase appearing entirely under water-works and sanitary and miscellaneous works.

(e) Plague expenditure. 6. The outlay on plague measures amounted to Rs. 2,43,888 or Rs. 12,497 more than in the previous year, the increase being solely due to certain arrear recoveries having been made in 1902-1903. The expenditure on health camps and discretional relief which was met from funds allotted by Government for the purpose, amounted to Rs. 12,016 and Rs. 3,655 respectively.

(f) Debt and sinking fund. 7. A new loan of Rs. 3¾ lákhs was raised and Rs. 1,10,404 were paid towards the reduction of debt. The total debt was thus Rs. 4,74,20,355. Against this the Sinking Fund was raised to Rs. 46,95,890 by the investment of Rs. 5,73,101 during the year.

(g) Stores. 8. A special officer was appointed to overhaul the stores and stores accounts. The total value of the stores was found to be Rs. 7,17,252, of which 56 per cent. are surplus or obsolete stores, which will be disposed of as opportunities occur. Measures have been taken to prevent any future accumulation of useless stores.

Taxation. 9. The rates of taxation continued the same except that the duty on Ghee was raised from 8 annas to 10 annas per maund, after being reduced in the previous year. The incidence of taxation per head of population rose from Rs. 9-1-11 to Rs. 9-6-1.

Public works. 10. Rs. 83,846 were spent on new works. The total expenditure on the Engineer's Department, including drainage, water-works, lighting and street improvements was Rs. 15,81,915, or nearly Rs. 80,000 more than in the previous year. Rs. 1,25,719 were spent in adding 3,789 square yards of ground to streets. Road metalling cost Rs. 2,80,379, the average rate per square foot being 4·75 pies. 93 insanitary houses and sheds were demolished by the Municipality, while 176 houses for which improvement notices were served were demolished by the owners.

Water-supply. 11. The rainfall at the Tánsa, Vehár and Tulsi lakes was much heavier than in the previous year, being at each place over 100 inches. At the end of the year the total number of water-connections was 20,833 and the number of meters in use 3,208.

Fire-brigade. 12. The estimated damage to property by fires was Rs. 10,94,563. There were 92 calls of fire, of which 14 proved false alarms.

Public health. 13. The state of the public health was worse than in the previous year. Deaths numbered 50,513, or 2,099 more than in 1902-1903. Plague deaths numbered 20,788 against 13,820 and deaths from small-pox 1,477 against 288. The ten Municipal Dispensaries treated 84,886 cases against 78,728.

Education. 14. The number of Municipal schools remained at 86 and that of pupils was 7,115 or a decrease of 8 pupils only. Aided schools were 94 with 8,449 pupils against 97 with 8,615. The total grant-in-aid to aided schools was Rs. 23,863. The Government grant to the Municipality for education was raised to Rs. 72,768 from October 1903, but the Municipality did not see their way to raise the amount of their contribution above Rs. 80,000, and, as they are bound to contribute such a sum as added to the fees would be equal to double the Government grant or to forfeit the extra amount of the grant, payment was only made at the old rate, *i. e.* Rs. 42,666.

2.—District Municipalities.

General.

1. The number of Municipalities in the Presidency and Sind was 164, of which four were temporary. The Bassein Municipality continued under suspension, while the Máheji Municipality in the Khándesh District was abolished during the year. The number of councillors was 2,252, of whom 881 were elected, 1,190 nominated, and 181 *ex-officio*. Forty-one Municipalities were entirely composed of nominated members.

Income.

2. The aggregate income of all District Municipalities rose from Rs. 57,70,408 to Rs. 63,29,193, of which Rs. 39,59,572 were realised from taxation against Rs. 35,76,450 in the previous year. The increase in income was general, save for a falling off of nearly one lákh in Sind, which was due mainly to the fact that the accounts of Karáchi Municipality for 1902-1903 included the taxes collected for 15 months and that a special grant for plague expenditure was made to that Municipality during 1902-1903. In the Northern Division the increase of Rs. 3¾ lákhs is explained by the fact that the Ahmedabad Municipality took up in the open market a loan of Rs. 3 lákhs to meet its capital outlay on drainage works and withdrew Rs. 1½ lákhs from the Savings Bank. Receipts from taxation also increased chiefly under the heads of octroi, taxes on houses and lands, tolls, water-rate, and conservancy. The income of Municipalities in the Central Division increased by Rs. 1,81,507, owing to improvement in receipts from many of the principal sources of income in most Municipalities. There was an increase from Rs. 6,16,960 to Rs. 6,93,271 in the income of Municipalities in the Southern Division which was mainly due to enhanced receipts from octroi in the more important of the Dhárwár Municipalities. The incidence of taxation per head of population varied from Rs. 5-7-11 in the Karáchi Municipality to Re. 0-2-7 in the Ashta Municipality in Sátára; and that of total income from Rs. 6-15-1 in the case of Karáchi to Re. 0-4-1 in the case of Ashta.

Expenditure.

3. In the aggregate expenditure there was an increase of Rs. 1,55,482. There was, however, a large fall of Rs. 3,30,243 in Sind Municipalities which was chiefly due to the decrease of octroi refunds in the Karáchi, Hyderabad, Jacobabad, Lárkána and smaller Municipalities and to the expenditure on road repairs in Karáchi being less than in 1902-03. In the Northern Division the increase of Rs. 3,17,946 in expenditure was chiefly due to the extension of drainage in Ahmedabad and the greater cost of hospitals and dispensaries in all Municipalities. In the Central Division Rs. 1,19,797 more than in the previous year were spent, the increase being mostly visible under the heads of Public Safety, Public Health and Convenience, and Instruction. In the Southern Division the amount of increased expenditure was Rs. 48,082. "Hospitals and Dispensaries" and "Roads" were the chief heads showing increases.

Important works.

4. Besides the drainage works in Ahmedabad the most important works were a new dispensary at Karáchi, new municipal buildings at Ránder, and a fruit and vegetable market at Sholápur as a memorial to Her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

Debt.

5. The total liabilities of the Municipalities in respect of loans at the end of the year were Rs. 43,26,793. During the year Rs. 1,69,278 were repaid. Fresh loans were raised by the Municipalities of Ahmedabad (Rs. 3,00,000) and Sholápur (Rs. 45,000). The opening and closing balances stood at Rs. 15,26,594 and Rs. 17,84,428 respectively.

3.—Bombay Improvement Trust.

Progress of schemes.

1. Scheme I (Nágpáda) is practically completed. Only 10 building sites out of 58 remain to be leased. On all other sites building is complete or approaching completion. Scheme II, a road from Queen's Road to Carnac Bridge, has been further slightly altered with the result that the cost has been reduced and the area available for re-sale increased. The work of acquisition for this scheme is progressing satisfactorily, Rs. 10½ lákhs being spent on it during the year. Scheme III, a road from Queen's Road to Elphinstone Bridge, has been slightly modified, with the main object of obtaining sites for the construction of chawls for the poor. Rs. 26½ lákhs were spent in acquisition for this Scheme during the year. In connection with the Gowália Tank Scheme (Scheme IV), Rs. 1½ lákhs were spent during the year in awards. Scheme VII (Colába Reclamation) has made good progress, about two-thirds of the filling in being completed. Acquisition proceedings with regard to Scheme VIII (Mándvi-Koliváda) have begun. Several smaller street schemes have been sanctioned and progress has been made with the Saukli Street extension and the road south of Crawford Market.

Police accommodation schemes.

2. Schemes for providing Police quarters in various parts of the City have been sanctioned and progress has been made with the building at Nágpáda and Wodehouse Road and also with the Police Hospital building at Nágpáda.

Acquisition.

3. During the year 248 properties were acquired at a cost of nearly Rs. 39 lákhs. Of these 142 or 57 per cent. were amicably acquired. There is a noticeable increase in the percentage of cases amicably settled, which was 37 per cent. in 1902-1903 and 17 per cent. in 1901-1902.

Lands vested in the Board.

4. In all, up to date, 136 plots have been leased, yielding a present rental of Rs. 1,40,255 per annum. Buildings for the accommodation of 6,000 poor and working people are partly completed and partly in progress. In addition preparations are being made for building 328 tenements in Nágpáda, 1,000 tenements at Imámváda, 1,000 at Charniwádi, and 700 at Girgaum. It has not yet been finally decided how the Crescent site should be utilised.

5. Revenue operations show a net credit balance of Rs. 1,81,487, receipts being Rs. 8,80,150 and expenditure Rs. 6,98,663. The opening credit balance in cash and securities was Rs 58,46,000 which was reduced in July 1903 to Rs. 51,89,000. A fresh loan of Rs. 60 lákhs, bearing interest at 4 per cent. and having a currency of 60 years, was raised. The average rate of accepted tenders was Rs. 100¼. The year closed with a credit balance of Rs. 71,75,935. The capital expenditure of the Board rose from Rs. 38,89,400 to Rs. 49,59,835, of which nearly Rs. 43½ lákhs were expended on the various schemes. Finances.

11. Military (Volunteering).

1. Camps of exercise were held by the Bombay Light Horse, Bombay Volunteer Artillery, Bombay Volunteer Rifles, 1st and 2nd G. I. P. Railway Volunteer Rifles, 1st and 2nd B. B. & C. I. Railway Volunteer Rifles, Nagpur Volunteer Rifles, Poona Volunteer Rifles, Baluchistan Volunteer Rifles, Sind Volunteer Rifles and Karáchi Artillery Volunteers. Camps of exercise.

2. Government have sanctioned the formation of a few sections of Mounted Rifles in connection with the 2nd Battalion B. B. & C. I. Railway Volunteer Rifles. A cadet company has been raised among the members of the Albert High School, Panchgani. It is to form part of the Poona Volunteer Rifle Corps. New corps.

12. Marine.

For details *see* Annual Reports on Port Trusts for 1903-1904 and tables under XXXII—Port Trusts—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

1.—Bombay.

1. The number of European seamen shipped was 2,570 and that of those discharged 2,275. Deserters fell from 74 to 46 and the number of seamen left in jail from 32 to 23. The number left in hospital however increased form 44 to 51. Nine seamen were sent home distressed and subsistence was given to 20. Seamen's money orders showed a further large decline of Rs. 4,247 to Rs. 1,013 in value. Charges on account of distressed seamen fell to Rs. 328. European seamen.

2. The number of native seamen shipped showed a further rise from 30,371 to 35,024, while the number discharged showed a corresponding increase to 30,832. Deaths increased by 21 to 150, while the number left in jail rose from 9 to 78. Charges on account of distressed native seamen rose further to Rs. 1,257. Native seamen.

3. The gross revenue showed an increase of Rs. 8,389 or 14 per cent. over the figures of the previous year. Expenditure increased very slightly and the net profit rose to Rs. 49,169. Fines showed a slight decrease and Registry fees a slight increase. Receipts and expenditure.

2.—Aden.

The number of European and native seamen engaged were 130 and 1,506 against 16 and 1,357 in 1902-03 respectively : the numbers discharged were 167 European and 1,424 native seamen against 72 and 1,210 in the previous year. Thirty-two Europeans were sent to the United Kingdom. The amount realised in fees rose from Rs. 2,826 to Rs. 3,464. Shipping Office.

3.—Bombay Port Trust.

1. The gross receipts were Rs. 64,40,955 and they establish a record for the third year in succession exceeding last year's figures by Rs. 5¼ lákhs and the expenditure of the year under report by nearly Rs. 7½ lákhs. Imports showed large increases under cotton, iron, hardware, piece-goods and machinery, and decreases under grain and kerosine, while exports of cotton, grain and manganese ore all improved, and exports of bones, hides and coal declined. The total revenue expenditure was nearly Rs. 57 lakhs, which includes over Rs. 26 lákhs on account of interest and sinking fund charges. The surplus on the year's working was transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund raising it to Rs. 27,26,727. Receipts and expenditure.

2. The expenditure on capital works was over Rs. 13½ lákhs as against nearly Rs. 9 lákhs last year and was principally for improvements in the Carnac Basin and a new tug, dredger, and barges. A loan of Rs. 16 lakhs was raised at 4 per cent., the average rate of tenders accepted being about Rs. 103½. Plans and estimates for the new docks to cost Rs. 332 lákhs were approved by Government and a contract for the excavation and masonry work to cost Rs. 185 lákhs was placed. Loans and capital expenditure.

4.—Karáchi Port Trust.

1. For the third year in succession the receipts of the Karáchi Port Trust show a substantial increase over the figures of the previous year. During 1903-1904 receipts amounted to Rs. 19,58,281, an increase of Rs. 4 lákhs or over 25 per cent. on the receipts for 1902-1903. The increase is mainly due to the export trade in wheat and seeds, a trade which, it is Finance.

confidently anticipated, will steadily continue to increase in volume. Expenditure was Rs. 12,79,754, leaving a surplus of Rs. 6,79,527, from which Rs. 33,636 were expended on revenue capital works and Rs. 73,591 in liquidation of capital debt. A new loan of Rs. 4½ lákhs was raised during the year.

Works.

2. The early rush of exports somewhat delayed the constructive work, but the sidings, crossings and other accessories were obtained from Europe and deposited at the site of the work. Dredging operations show an increase of 46,265 tons in the amount of material removed, while the cost slightly decreased. The village of Keamári was completed and fully occupied and the need for further accommodation for labourers has already been made manifest.

5.—Aden Port Trust.

Finance and works.

The trade of the Port of Aden increased by 90 lákhs during the year and this caused a rise in the receipts of the Aden Port Trust of Rs. 77,794 to Rs. 4,65,638. The expenditure rose by Rs. 16,311 to Rs. 3,77,804. The result was a surplus of Rs. 87,834 against one of Rs. 26,351 in 1902-1903. Dredging operations were continued. 297,000 tons of spoil were lifted and deposited at an average cost of 5·3 annas per ton against 477,000 tons at an average cost of 2·74 annas in the previous year. Merchant vessels entering the port increased by 124 to 1,369 in number. The cost of new works and improvements carried out during the year was Rs. 47,353.

6.—Indus Conservancy Department.

Conservancy.

1. Snagging operations extended as usual from Kashmor to Keti Bandar. Twenty-seven snags and some small trees were removed from the river. Besides this a considerable number of trees and snags were removed from the mouth of the Uchito.

Course of the river.

2. No changes of great importance took place in the course of the river during the year.

Shipping.

3. The number and maundage of boats registered increased to 3,489 and 763,146 respectively. The actual river-borne traffic between Sind and the Punjab, however, decreased from 1,422,598 to 986,804 maunds.

Finance.

4. The receipts during the year were Rs. 17,012 against Rs. 16,712 in 1902-03. The expenditure decreased by Rs. 11,653 to Rs. 23,787, the decrease being due to the fact that during 1902-1903 Rs. 13,000 were spent on purchasing the S. S. "Fatteh Mubarak."

Offences.

5. Five cases of offences against the conservancy rules were tried, four of which resulted in convictions.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

For—

POWER INDUSTRIES AND HANDICRAFTS

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1901-1902, PART II PAGES 118—124.

1. Agriculture.

For details *see* Season and Crop Report of the Bombay Presidency for 1903-1904 and Report of the Department of Agriculture for 1903-1904, also Tables Nos. 3, 4 and 10 appended to the Agricultural Statistics of British India.

I.—Land Record Staff.

1. The Land Record Staff was at work in all the districts of the Presidency proper and in addition to their ordinary duties proceeded with the training of village accountants in survey and in the preparation of the Record-of-Rights under Act IV of 1903. In some districts the services of Circle Inspectors were also utilised in connection with the destruction of locusts. Central classes for training Circle Inspectors in survey work were held in the head-quarter towns of each of the three Divisions. One hundred and fifty-six Circle Inspectors attended the classes, and of these 140 passed the subsequent examination in field and paper work. With the assistance of Mámlatdárs and Sub-divisional Officers the staff supervised the preparation of the Record-of-Rights in 46 tálukas.

2.—Crops Areas.

Area under cultivation.

1. In the Presidency proper the net cropped area fell very slightly (by about 1 per cent.) to 23,506,000 acres. It was thus 2·4 per cent. below the normal area cropped before the famine of 1895-1896. The fall was chiefly in the districts of Sholápur, Bijápur, Násik, Ahmednagar, Dhárwár and Belgaum, and the shrinkage occurred mostly under bájri and jowári owing to unseasonable rains, while in Dhárwár and Bijápur it was also partly attributed to depopulation on account of plague. The area cropped more than once, however, increased by 6 per cent. to 675,000 acres. In Sind the net cropped area increased by over 18 per cent. to 3,797,000 acres owing to the good inundation and the extension of cultivation on the Jámrao and Hiral Canals.

Crops.

2. The gross area sown with crops in the Presidency proper was practically the same as in the previous year. The area under food crops decreased by about 12 lákhs of acres, while the area under non-food crops increased by 10 lákhs of acres. In Sind there was a large expansion of area under all important crops. The decrease under food crops was confined to jowári and bájri and was chiefly noticeable in Sholápur, Bijápur and Khándesh owing to excessive rains. The total decrease in jowári was 13 lákhs of acres. The area under bájri fell by 5 lákhs of acres, the chief causes being sufficiency of food stocks and failure of the early rains. Wheat showed an increase of 5½ lákhs of acres in the Presidency, including Sind. The chief reason of this was the good prices obtained in the previous year combined with favourable conditions. Rice increased by 1¼ lákhs of acres in the Presidency and by 96,000 acres in Sind. The area under pulses rose by 1¾ lákhs of acres in the Presidency and by 76,000 acres in Sind. Among non-food crops the most noticeable item is cotton, which increased by over 7 lákhs of acres in the Presidency and by 16,000 acres in Sind. The increase was general and, coinciding as it did with the enormous rise in prices caused by American speculation, it secured large profits to the cultivators. The area under tobacco fell by 5,000 acres to 72,000 acres chiefly because other crops were found to pay better. Sugarcane again showed a slight improvement, 57,000 acres being cropped as against 54,000 in the previous year. The area under oil-seeds increased by 3 lákhs of acres, of which over 2½ lákhs were credited to the Presidency proper. The increase was fairly general but was most marked in Násik and Bijápur. The area under linseed was nearly double that of the previous year, while that under sesame rose by 27 per cent.

Irrigation.

3. In the Presidency proper the net irrigated area amounted to 3 per cent. of the net cropped area. In Sind the proportion rose from 83 to 86 per cent. owing to more favourable inundation. In the Presidency proper the area irrigated from all sources fell very slightly to 704,000 acres. The chief decrease was in the areas irrigated from wells and Government canals, while the areas irrigated from private canals, tanks and other sources showed a considerable increase. In Ahmedabad canal irrigation to some extent took the place of well irrigation. In Kaira rain ceased early in October, and the area under rabi crops was curtailed and there was less scope for irrigating such crops. The late rainfall in the Deccan and Karnátak caused the canals and páts to flow longer than usual and filled up the tanks. Hence the area irrigated by canals and tanks increased and there was less demand for irrigation from wells, except in Ahmednagar and Sholápur, where the rainfall filled up wells that had run dry in recent years. In Poona, however, the Mutha Canals were unable to supply all the water wanted. In Sind the area irrigated increased by over 22 per cent. to 3,264,000 acres. Irrigation from wells

decreased by over 50 per cent. owing to the constant supply provided by the canals. Of the crops irrigated in Sind, wheat increased in area by nearly 200,000 acres and rice by nearly 100,000 acres.

Water-supply.

4. The figures for the year under report show 148,164 pakka and 93,436 kacha wells for irrigation or respective increases of 1,299 and 257 on the figures of last year. Similarly other wells are shown to be 140,751 in number or 2,097 more than in the previous year. Though the figures are not entirely reliable, satisfactory progress appears to have been made in the construction of wells. In Ahmedabad and Násik liberal grants of tagávi account for an increase of 330 in the number of wells for irrigation. Water-supply from tanks appears to show a slight decrease, which is made up for by an increase from sources other than wells and tanks.

3.—Crop Experiments.

The total number of crop experiments carried out during the year amounted to 114. Of these, 45 were in the Northern Division, 40 in the Central Division, and 29 in the Southern Division. In all 20 experiments were made on wheat, 15 on jowári, 12 on rice, 19 on hill and other millets, 9 on tur, 13 on gram and other pulses, 6 on groundnuts, 11 on sesamum and other oil-seeds, 8 on cotton, and 1 on coriander.

4.—Agricultural Experiments.

Poona Farm.

Season.

1. The season was only moderately favourable for kharíf crops owing to long alternate spells of wet and dry weather.

Forage crops.

2. Experiments with fodder crops were continued. The yield of the guinea-grass plantations was no better than last year as they have become old and need renewal. Hot-weather fodders, hundi jowári and maize were grown for comparison, and the latter was found to have an advantage over the former in respect of quantity, quality and value. For kharíf fodder, maize, jowári, sundhia, utavli and nilwa and the three other sorghums were planted. It was found that maize and sundhia had to be irrigated during a spell of dry weather while the sorghums gave the best return. A new kind of fodder crops "sann," which is grown in Madras, was experimented with, but the result was not successful owing to cutting being delayed too long.

Other crops.

3. Various experiments were made with gram and other pulses, while among new plants tried were Rangoon beans, Soy-beans, Velvet beans, Peruvian castor seed and cotton seed and six varieties of maize. Two experiments with heads of wheat went to show that the habit of producing larger heads is hereditary and that a small grain from a large head produced a better head than a large grain from a small head. Fifty-four varieties of túr were grown for classification.

Cross-fertilization.

4. A large number of cotton hybrids produced by cross-fertilization in the previous year were sown and a selection of the best plants for further propagation was made. Some new crosses of wheat were made; 134 varieties of wheat were sown, including the hybrids of the previous year's crossing. Some distinct types were produced.

New methods of protection and cultivation.

5. Experiments made with a chemical mixture to counteract the groundnut "Tika" disease were fairly successful. Similar experiments with the wilt disease of túr proved a failure. A similar result attended an experiment to manure túr with a patent manure.

Farm implements.

6. A consignment of various tools was received from America, but they have not yet been sufficiently tested for report.

Agricultural training.

7. There were two probationers from Madras and one each from Mysore and Sind undergoing practical training at the farm, besides the three probationers from the Bombay Educational Department, who were there in the previous year.

Financial result.

8. The net cost of the farm rose to Rs. 4,148.

Poona Dairy Farm.

Stock.

1. The dairy herd numbered 151 cows and 85 buffaloes at the end of the year. The supply of milk was better than usual, but could not keep pace with the demand.

Feeding experiments.

2. An experiment in feeding milk buffaloes with yams produced good results, the yield of milk increasing.

Financial result.

3. The net profit on the dairy for the year was Rs. 6,137.

Mánjri Farm.

Season.

1. The season was on the whole favourable.

Experiments.

2. Experiments with different kinds of manures were made on sugarcane, lucerne, maize, jowári and bájri. The chief positive result was that sewage was found to be the best kind of manure for lucerne. Various innovations in the methods of cultivation of sugarcane, cotton, maize, jowári and linseed were tried, but nothing of great importance resulted. Several new crops were planted; those which showed most promise were Canary seed and English pease. Selection was made from among the cotton-crosses made in 1901-02 and 19 varieties of cotton were grown for identification and comparison.

Crops.

3. Comparative variety tests were made with sugarcane, sweet potatoes, maize, bájri, jowári, wheat and pulses. Indigenous varieties of maize and Gujaráti varieties of bájri produced the best results. The other experiments were inconclusive.

4. Seeds and sugarcane and sweet-potato cuttings were distributed to various officials and non-officials during the year. Seed distribution.

5. The net cost of the farm to Government fell from Rs. 2,982 to Rs. 1,099. Financial result.

Mánjri Sewage Farm.

1. Sugarcane was attacked by the borer insect and a considerable portion of it was destroyed. Surans and ginger also suffered from disease. Turmeric, groundnut and sweet potatoes gave the largest outturn. The fodder crops of sorghums and maize were also satisfactory. Crops.

2. On an area of 14 acres the cost of cultivation was Rs. 2,301 and the outturn Rs. 3,022, leaving a net profit of Rs. 721. In addition to this the cost of purifying the sewage was Rs. 4,467. Financial result.

Surat Farm.

1. The rainfall was up to the average but not well distributed. Season.

2. Five thousand pounds of various seeds, chiefly cotton and groundnut, and also a considerable number of agricultural instruments, were distributed. Distribution of seed and implements.

3. As a result of the experiments of six years it was decided that the best rotation of crops is cotton alternating with a mixture of jowár and túr, and also that fallowing is a mistake even in districts of moderate rainfall, as its effect is merely to store up water in the soil for the next year's crop. Rotation experiments.

4. Experiments with farm-yard manure showed that it is of less value in the retentive soils of Surat than in the lighter soils of other districts. Experiments with nitre manure were inconclusive and will be repeated. Manure experiments.

5. The prevention of smut in jowár by steeping the seed in various solutions was successfuly demonstrated. Prevention of disease.

6. Experiments in foreign varieties of sweet potatoes and groundnuts showed that the indigenous variety of sweet potatoes is more saleable and that the Virginian variety of groundnut produces the best results. New varieties.

7. The farm had an area of 84 acres and the dairy a herd of 86 animals. The net cost to Government fell from Rs. 7,070 to Rs. 2,658. Financial result.

The Northcote Gowshála.

At the close of the year there were 776 animals as against 591 at the end of the preceding year. But in order to weed out old and mixed-blood cows from the herd, 273 animals were sold at a public auction for Rs. 4,899 in the March following. Besides cows and their unweaned calves and heifers the lot included 44 castrated and 14 uncastrated calves and 2 Pol bulls. The castrated calves were sold at an average price of Rs. 23½ and the two Pol bulls brought in Rs. 95. The Gowshála was further helped by a grant of Rs. 2,500 from the Inspector-General of Agriculture for the construction of additional cow sheds. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 7,399 as against the opening balance of Rs. 8,353. The small demonstration farm was continued and the experiments repeated. The Gowshála was visited by the officers of the Agricultural Departments of Bengal, Central Provinces, Punjáb and Madras under the guidance of the Inspector-General of Agriculture.

Nadiád Farm.

The rainfall was only two-thirds of the average. The late rains failed and a severe frost in December did much damage. In consequence the experiments conducted proved inconclusive. A new area of about 44½ acres was taken up during the year, but work on it was necessarily confined to clearing operations. Experiments were continued on the old area on the same lines as in previous years. The operations resulted in a total profit of Rs. 471.

Miscellaneous Experiments.

1. At Dhulia a small area of 6 acres was taken up. Several varieties of cotton and jowár new to the district were tried. The Chapti variety of jowár gave the best results and the cultivators were very anxious to obtain its seed. An investigation of the relative yield of local types of cotton was begun and a commencement made in the hybridization of cottons in the district into which their introduction is to be attempted. The farm has now been transferred to Jalgaon. Dhulia demonstration plot.

2. The rainfall at Chharodi was not favourable. The Broach and Goghari varieties of cotton gave a much better outturn than the local varieties, but it remains to be seen if they will maintain their position in a normal season. Chharodi cotton plot.

3. Twenty-five experiments as to the value of crude saltpetre as manure for rice were undertaken in the Thána, Kolába and Poona Districts. Results were good on the whole, but further careful experiments are to be made. Rice experiments.

5.—Advances to Cultivators.

The advances made under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturalrists' Loans Act in each of the districts of the Presidency during the past two years are shown in the following statement:—

Districts.	1902-03.		1903-04.	
	For purchase of seed and cattle, Act XII of 1884.	For permanent improvement, Act XIX of 1883.	For purchase of seed and cattle, Act XII of 1884.	For permanent improvement, Act XIX of 1883.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ahmedabad	5,59,370	68,240	28,683	16,432
Kaira	1,87,924	22,760	26,192	9,647
Panch Mahâls	41,896	6,400	38,796	3,643
Broach	2,06,674	2,164	24,170	2,015
Surat	86,071	16,700	9,850	17,605
Thána	18,291	13,212	19,572	12,313
Násik	1,54,735	36,203	20,534	10,693
Khándesh	2,81,492	29,775	38,882	15,202
Ahmednagar	3,93,660	41,225	43,587	7,406
Poona	1,81,843	90,955	27,388	20,897
Sholápur	1,89,971	20,240	49,812	3,735
Sátára	18,003	48,574	15,508	35,800
Belgaum	81,525	50,446	17,597	22,101
Dhárwár	35,081	1,04,480	14,594	1,05,409
Bijápur	4,19,986	1,91,896	13,370	1,61,374
Ratnágiri	7,988	3,575	4,277	1,700
Kánara	12,161	3,428	20,105	7,155
Kolába	4,658	4,705	6,183	2,496
Karáchi	60,750	38,115	21,273	7,100
Hyderábád	1,10,905	80,500	53,030	48,435
Sukkur	20,778	1,29,691	48,464	99,133
Thar and Párkar	52,819	8,400	23,513	5,550
Upper Sind Frontier ...	8,420	35,530	15,170	43,075
Lárkána	44,267	88,039	72,779	1,19,496
Total ...	31,79,268	11,35,253	6,53,329	7,78,412

It will be seen from the above table that with very few and unimportant exceptions, the advances under both Acts decreased very considerably in all districts. The total decrease under the Agriculturists' Loans Act was Rs. 25,25,939 and under the Land Improvements Loans Act Rs. 3,56,841. The favourable rainfall is, of course, the reason for the decrease under both Acts. The only other interesting point is the small increase in some of northern Sind Districts where the partial introduction of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act frightened the money-lenders and drove the rayats to apply for Government help.

6.—Agricultural Stock.

The return is a quinquennial one and no fresh figures are available since those of 1901-1902.

7.—Horse-breeding.

At the beginning of the year there were 46 stallions on the registers of the Civil Veterinary Department, but from May 1st all the stallions in the selected districts, *i.e.*, Poona and Ahmednagar, were handed over to the Army Remount Department. Thus at the end of the year there were only 13 stallions under the control of the Department. The average number during the year was 11 and they covered 284 mares or an average 25·65 each. No mares were branded during the year and the system of branding has since been abolished. The percentage of mares that foaled increased from 31·99 to 37·85. Twenty-five colts were castrated by the Veterinary graduates in the non-selected districts of the Presidency. A horse-show was held at Ahmedabad for the first time after a lapse of 11 years. The animals exhibited numbered 293 and the show was pronounced a success. In Sind there were no stallions maintained for breeding purposes by any public body. The Hyderabad Local Board maintained one bull which covered 17 cows during the year. Forty-nine colts were castrated by the various Veterinary graduates in Sind.

2. Weather and Crops.

1.—Meteorological Department of Western India.

Number of observatories.

There were 11 second class and 18 third class stations as in the previous year.

Character of work.

Observations were continuous at all observatories save for thirteen days at Poona and two days at Belgaum. There were small interruptions at other observatories owing to particular instruments being out of order. The usual daily weather report and chart continued to be published. Three new reporting stations were added during the year, making a total of 58. Extracts from the logs of vessels that touched at the port of Bombay were taken as usual and the instruments on board carefully compared.

2.—Note on the Weather in the Bombay Presidency in 1903-1904.

General.

The most noticeable features of the weather were (1) a sharp cyclonic storm in the neighbourhood of Bombay towards the end of May, (2) the late setting in of the south-west monsoon, (3) the scanty rainfall in Gujarát in June and the first half of July.

The storm in May formed in the south of the Arabian Sea about 18th instant. It gave heavy rain at Colombo on that date and advancing slowly reached the Konkan about the 21st. On the evening of the 20th it sank some 30 vessels in Bombay Harbour. On the 23rd and 24th it did great damage along the coast for nearly 100 miles north of Bombay. It then passed away towards the Central Provinces. Storm.

The monsoon was unusually late. Heavy rain fell at Colombo on June 12th. The first heavy rain at Bombay was on 15th, but the current remained weak and during June the rainfall was below normal everywhere, especially in Gujarát. From July 13th, however, a stronger current set in giving good rain all over the Presidency and in Western Rájputána. The current fell off again early in August and did not really strengthen again, though about the third week in September a storm that crossed from the Bay of Bengal gave fairly general rain. The rainfall for the whole year was very nearly normal all over the Presidency, being 7 per cent. in defect in Gujarát and the Western Deccan and somewhat in excess elsewhere. Monsoon.

3.—Note on the Weather at Bombay.

In 1903 the south-west monsoon rains at Bombay began on June 11th and ended on October 9th. The total rainfall for the year amounted to 84·39 inches or 9·23 inches above the average of twenty-four years ending in 1896. The distribution was fairly normal throughout. In August and October the fall was slightly above, and in September slightly, below the average. The storm at the end of May gave a rainfall of 7·79 inches. Rainfall.

The mean temperature of the year under report was 79·4° or about normal. The highest hourly temperature recorded was 91·7° on March 30th and the lowest was 57·2° on December 27th. The highest mean daily temperature was 86·2° on June 11th and the lowest was 64·9° on December 27th. Temperature.

The mean hourly velocity of the wind for the year was 10·1 miles against 11·8 miles, the average of twenty-four years. The greatest mean hourly velocity in one day was 42·1 miles on May 24th and the least was 4·4 miles on September 23rd. The greatest recorded hourly velocity during the year was 63 miles between 4 and 5 P.M. on May 24th. Wind.

4.—The Maharaja Taktasingji Observatory, Poona.

The usual observations of the sun and stars were made, the records being forwarded every month to Sir Norman Lockyer. Some new instruments were purchased, while repairs of defective instruments were duly carried out.

5.—Colaba Observatory.

The usual magnetic, meteorological, seismological and astronomical observations were continued during the year. A branch Magnetic Observatory at Alibág was opened in February 1903. Weather and other reports were distributed as usual.

6.—Season and Crops.

The following table shows the distribution of the rainfall at the various head-quarter stations in the Bombay Presidency proper:—

District Head-quarter.	Year ending 31st December.				
	Average of eleven years ending 1902.	1902.		1903.	
		Fall.	Rainy days.	Fall.	Rainy days.
	Inches.	Inches.	No.	Inches.	No.
I.—Gujarát.					
Ahmedabad	31·39	26·06	29	25·21	33
Kaira	32·73	32·38	30	20 75	34
Godhra (Panch Mahals)	38·13	36·16	33	35·63	43
Broach	41·77	49·46	41	46·82	45
Surat	39·58	55·08	46	40·19	57
II.—Deccan.					
Dhulia (Khándesh)	22·40	21·91	42	30·06	41
Násik	29·19	30·30	43	25·39	35
Ahmednagar	22·68	30·31	35	33·47	48
Poona	31·92	31·12	49	28·49	40
Sholápur	25·99	30·41	35	43·32	52
Sátára	40·65	37·45	72	35·30	60
III.—Karnátak.					
Belgaum	51·88	51·86	81	43·90	83
Bijápur	23·61	21·18	41	30·77	49
Dhárwár	34·11	38·46	67	27·84	66
IV.—Konkan.					
Alibág (Kolába)	88·78	80·27	77	102·64	88
Ratnágiri	96·65	98·56	89	100·78	98
Kárwár (Kánara)	118·81	149·91	108	136·37	102
Thána	100·24	81·17	84	126·97	97

7.—Anna-valuation of Crops.

The following table gives the reported anna-valuation of the outturn of the principal crops sown in each district during the year, 12 annas representing the value of a normal crop :—

No.	District.	Average Anna-valuation.									
		Jowári.	Bájri.	Rice.	Wheat.	Kodra.	Rági.	Vari.	Tur.	Gram.	Cotton.
	Gujarát.										
1	Ahmedabad ...	12	9	5	10	5	5	7	5	10	11
2	Kaira ...	8	7	10	11	7	6	8	8	8	9
3	Panch Mahals ...	9*	8	10	8	8	6	...	8	10	10
4	Broach ...	7	8	12	11	8	8	8	9	7	11
5	Surat ...	10	9	13	10	7	8	...	9	...	12
	Deccan.										
6	Khándesh ...	7	9	6	10	1	7	6	7	10	9
7	Násik ...	5	10	9	9	...	7	7	8	10	9
8	Ahmednagar ...	7	8	10	7	9	8	9	7	8	7
9	Poona ...	5	7	7	6	6	7	6	5	6	10
10	Sholápur ...	6	4	6	11	3	2	4	9	8	6
11	Sátára ...	11	10	9	12	6	10	10	10	12	11
	Karnátak.										
12	Belgaum ...	11	10	10	6	2	10	9	6	10	11
13	Bijápur ...	10	7	5	8	7	8	7	8	7	10
14	Dhárwár ...	12	7	12	5	8	10	9	6	10	12
	Konkan.										
15	Thána ...	10	10	11	9	11	9	9	9	10	...
16	Kolába ...	9	...	11	6	7	9	10	8	9	...
17	Ratnágiri ...	...	...	9	...	9	9	10	6	8	...
18	Kánara ...	...	...	10	...	...	7	...	...	...	...
	Sind.										
19	Karáchi ...	8	10	9	9	...	8	7	...	6	7
20	Hyderabad ...	9	9	8	9	...	...	...	...	9	6
21	Sukkur ...	8	8	9	9	...	...	....	...	8	6
22	Lárkhána ...	8	8	10	9	...	...	....	...	8	6
23	Upper Sind Frontier ...	6	7	10	10	...	8	8	...	8	8
24	Thar and Párkar ...	8	7	9	7	...	...	...	...	...	6

* Maize.

The rainfall was generaly good and crops in all districts were fair to good, except the kharif crop in Sholápur which was poor.

8.—Locusts.

Locusts appeared in several districts during the year. In July 1903 they appeared in small swarms in Násik and Khándesh but did little harm. They re-appeared in September and October in Thána and Khándesh and in parts of Násik, Kolába, and the three northern districts of Gujarát and did some damage to standing crops. In November they left Thána and Khándesh for a time but remained in Násik and Kolába and extended to the western parts of Poona, Sátára and Ratnágiri. They lingered in these districts till March damaging crops and fruit trees. In April 1904 the swarms increased considerably and extended over all the districts except those in Gujarát. Organised efforts for their destruction were begun in March 1904.

9.—Prices.

The prices of food-grains were generally lower in all districts than in the previous year. The average prices of jowári and bájri were distinctly lower in Gujarát, the Deccan and the Karnátak, while in Sind the price of jowári fell from 17 to 21 seers per rupee and that of bájri remained stationary at 21 seers per rupee. Wheat and gram showed a corresponding reduction in price, wheat being on the average some 2 seers cheaper per rupee. On the other hand the price of tur pulse and of rice rose slightly in most districts. The price of cotton rose by about 40 per cent. The increase in the outturn, combined with the rise in price, probably nearly doubled the value of the cotton produced.

10.—Wages.

There were no important variations in the rates of wages for skilled and unskilled labour in the Presidency proper. The fall in the price of food-grains might have been expected to produce a corresponding fall in the price of labour, and this effect is actually noticeable in a slight degree in some districts. The good crops however, combined with the ravages of plague, made the demand for labour generally good and in Surat, Dhárwár and Bijápur the supply is

reported to have been at times deficient. The labourer was certainly better off during the past year than he has been for some years. The price of skilled labour varied from a minimum of 7 annas in Sholápur to a maximum Re. 1 in Surat, while that of unskilled labour varied from annas 2 in the Panch Maháls to a maximum of annas 6 in Thána. Cart-hire varied from a minimum of 8 annas in Sátára to a maximum of Rs. 2 in Surat. In Sind also there was little fluctuation in the wages, though the tendency, if any, was towards a rise in the price of unskilled labour.

3. Horticulture.

Public Gardens.

1. The Bombay Municipality continued to maintain nine public gardens. The expenditure was Rs. 66,038 as against Rs. 55,818 in the previous year. The number of visitors to the Victoria Gardens fell by over 3 lákhs to 1,459,605 from the exceptional figures of the previous year. The net receipts from the Victoria Gardens amounted to Rs. 11,342. Bombay Municipal Gardens.

2. Though the season was not very favourable, the gardens under the management of the Agri-horticultural Society of Western India continued to make progress. The receipts from the sale of seeds and other garden produce rose to Rs. 15,918. The attempts to train mális for private employers were continued. There was a deficit on the year's working of the two gardens of Rs. 4,651, but of this sum Rs. 2,439 were expended in additions to the Botanic Gardens. The Empress and Bund Gardens, Poona.

3. The Ganeshkhind Gardens are to be used in future as Botanical and Experimental Gardens. During the year they were worked at a net profit of Rs. 857. The Ganeshkhind Gardens.

4. Forests.

1.—Northern Circle.

1. The changes during the year resulted in the reserved forest area being increased by over 7 miles and protected forest being diminished by 474 acres. In Thána, forests amounting to 3,236 acres in area, whilst remaining protected forest, were handed over to the Revenue Department for management with the Woodlands. Area.

2. Outer boundaries were cleared for 223 miles, and 224 miles were demarcated by cairns or mounds. In Surat 711 earthen mounds were replaced by upright tie-bars as boundary marks. The total cost of boundary demarcation was Rs. 6,780. Boundaries.

3. Data for the working plan of the Mokháda and Talasri forests in Thána were collected and 260 coupes with an acreage of 13,287 were laid out for exploitation at a cost of Rs. 430. Working plans.

4. Prosecutions before Magistrates increased from 140 to 193 and the percentage of convictions rose to 86·5. Offences compounded numbered 1,273 or 537 more than in the previous year: the amount received in compensation was Rs. 2,038. The number of cattle impounded rose further to 8,043. Forest offences.

5. The area actually protected from fires fell slightly to 830,872 acres, while the cost rose slightly to Rs. 13,963. Forest fires.

6. Free grants of timber to the value of Rs. 3,684 were made as against grants to the value of Rs. 4,504 in 1902-1903. Free grants.

7. Plantations in Central Thána, Panch Maháls and Surat produced good results. The cost was about Rs. 2,500. Natural reproduction save that of teak in Central Thána was fair. Plantations.

8. A sum of Rs. 30, 318 was spent on roads and buildings, about three-quarters of the total amount being spent in the Dangs. Communications and buildings.

9. Revenue and expenditure were Rs. 5,75,112 and Rs. 3,48,805 against Rs. 4,47,211 and Rs. 3,19,030 in 1902-1903 respectively. The net surplus was Rs. 2,26,306 or Rs. 95,554 more than in the previous year. Financial results.

2.—Central Circle.

1. The area of reserved forest increased by 321 acres. The area of protected forest rose by over 87 square miles owing to all the "Rab" lands of the Peint Táluka of Násik having been brought under section 28 of the Forest Act. Area.

2. Two hundred and three miles of forest boundaries were demarcated with cairns and stones at a cost of Rs. 1,844. Boundaries.

3. Working plans for a total area of 496 acres in Poona and Khándesh were sanctioned during the year. The field establishment laid out on the ground 199 compartments with an area of 18,203 acres at a cost of Rs. 847. Working plans.

4. Including arrears there were 980 prosecutions. The percentage of convictions to completed cases was 86. Cases compounded increased in number from 4,013 to 8,342 and the compensation paid from Rs. 8,842 to Rs. 10,848. The number of cattle impounded fell to 123,169. Forest offences.

Forest fires. 5. Fire traversed 834,892 acres or 24 per cent. of the forest area in charge of the Department against 19 per cent. in the previous year.

Plantations. 6. Artificial reproduction was carried on over an area of 5,234 acres. The central nursery at Manjri raised 1,378,850 plants as against 1,407,080 in 1902-1903. The season was a fair one for natural reproduction, but locusts damaged the tree growth along the Western Ghâts.

Free grants. 7. Free grants of timber were made to the value of Rs. 3,072 as against grants to the value of Rs. 4,411 in the previous year.

Communications and buildings. 8. A road 6 miles long to open out one of the Yawal (Khándesh) blocks was laid out departmentally. Work was also done in connection with the Dara-Mándvi Road in West Khándesh and the Bhawli-Ambewádi Road in the Igatpuri Range. The outlay on new works and repairs amounted to Rs. 3,556. A forest bungalow at Pal, in East Khándesh, was completed at a cost of Rs. 848. The Public Works Department completed the Forest Officer's bungalow at Dhulia at a total cost of Rs. 7,464.

Financial results. 9. Receipts rose from Rs. 3,52,048 to Rs. 4,32,668, while expenditure fell from Rs. 5,12,190 to Rs. 5,08,122. There was thus a decrease of Rs. 84,688 in the loss on the working of the department as compared with the results of 1902-1903.

3.—Southern Circle.

Area. 1. The area of reserved forest increased by 516 acres and that of protected forest by 4 square miles 542 acres.

Boundaries. 2. External boundaries were completely demarcated over 345 miles and partially demarcated over 255 miles. The total cost of boundary work was Rs. 17,820.

Working plans. 3. The working plans of Kolába were revised and 358 square miles were gone over during the year at a cost of Rs. 8,098.

Forest assignments. 4. Further assignments of 2,238 acres of forest lands were made to wild tribes in the Karjat and Khálápur ranges.

Forest offences. 5. Prosecutions before Magistrates increased from 248 to 337 in number. The percentage of convictions rose from 76 to 80. Rs. 4,056 were recovered in 1,438 compounded cases against Rs. 3,356 in 1,213 cases in the previous year. The number of cattle impounded rose from 11,974 to 19,570.

Forest fires. 6. The area under protection from fire was 1,713 square miles against 1,860 square miles in the previous year and the percentage of failures to protect rose from 3 to 9.

Plantations. 7. No regular plantations were undertaken.

Free grants. 8. The value of forest produce granted free fell from Rs. 8,063 to Rs. 7,507.

Financial results. 9. Receipts rose from Rs. 12,61,369 to Rs. 13,46,263 and expenditure from Rs. 7,09,226 to Rs. 7,98,124.

4.—Sind Circle.

Area. 1. The area of protected forest remained at 585 acres: that of reserved forest increased from 1,062 to 1,066 square miles by reason of additional reservations under the Forest Act, though the action of the river caused a net loss of 5,790 acres against a net gain of 3,664 acres in the previous year.

Working plans. 2. The working plans of the Naushahro Division were sanctioned.

Demarcation. 3. In Naushahro 3 miles were demarcated and in Jerruck 9 miles in the newly acquired reserves were defined by boundary marks. 151 miles of rides were cut with the object of dividing the forest into compartments. Of this 17 miles were cut in exchange for the material cut. The average cost per mile of the rest was Rs. 7-15-8. 16,124 boundary marks were erected or repaired over a length of 1,491 miles.

Communications and buildings. 4. A sum of Rs. 3,865 was expended in various works coming under the head of communications and buildings.

Forest offences. 5. Criminal prosecutions disposed of numbered 85 and the percentage of convictions rose from 72 to 75. The number of cases compounded was 318 and the amount of compensation received Rs. 669. Illicit grazing cases fell in number by 210 to 1,181, but the amount received in compensation increased slightly to Rs. 1,335.

Forest fires. 6. The area traversed by fire fell from 9,558 to 1,155 acres. The improvement is attributed to the good inundation which made grazing plentiful, so that maldars had no cause to fire the forests to obtain fresh grass.

Reproduction. 7. Natural reproduction was good owing to the favourable inundation. For the same reason efforts to assist reproduction by broadcasting babul and kandi seed were fairly successful.

Free grants. 8. Free grants of forest produce were made to the value of Rs. 444.

Financial results. 9. Receipts rose to Rs. 3,21,142 and expenditure fell to Rs. 1,29,344. There was thus a surplus of Rs. 1,91,798 or Rs. 71,286 more than in 1902-1903.

5. Mines and Quarries.

The Dhárwár Gold Mines, Limited, started work during the year, and a rich lode is believed to have been discovered. Three new mining leases covering an area of about 3½ miles have been issued in the same district, and there have been numerous applications for prospecting licenses. Besides the above no mines were worked during the year. Prospecting licenses, however, were granted for iron ore near Mahábaleshvar in Sátára and for manganese ore in the Khánápur Táluka of the Belgaum District. No quarries of any importance were worked during the year.

6. Manufactures and Industries.

The principal industries of the Presidency, *viz.*, cotton spinning and weaving, the manufacture of salt, and the distillation of liquor, are dealt with under other headings. The chief feature of the year was undoubtedly the prosperous state of all industries connected with cotton. Most cotton producing districts have local ginning and pressing factories, but in several districts these are reported to have been unable to cope with the local trade, and the number of these factories has increased or is likely shortly to increase in Khándesh, Násik, Sholápur and Hyderabad. Industries connected with agriculture, such as the rice husking and cleaning factories in Sind and Thána, also showed an activity in sympathy with the improvement in the season. Similarly the cream butter and milk industries of Ahmedabad, Kaira and Thána seem to be extending. The fibre industry shows signs of having a promising future before it. Besides the Powai Factory in Thána, experiments in the cultivation of aloes and the extraction of fibre are reported from the districts of Poona and Ahmednagar, while a similar attempt to extract cocoanut fibre by machinery is reported from Ratnágiri. Carpet making in Dhárwár and Ahmednagar seems to be making progress, though there is little or no local demand. In Bijápur the weaving industry showed a considerable revival. The timber trade is rapidly recovering from its recent decline. The grass trade of Thána is increasing yearly in volume. As individual instances of other promising manufactures and industries, the Match Factory in Ahmedabad, the Bone Mill at Thána, the brick kilns at Kalyán and the rum distillery and the brewery near Poona may be mentioned.

The Factory Act.

1. The number of factories increased from 400 to 418. Of those working 210 were perennial and 206 seasonal. In all 337 were connected with the cotton trade. — Number of Factories.

2. Of the 182,910 operatives employed, 113,214 were in Bombay. In all there were 38,752 women and 7,163 children operatives. — Number of hands.

3. The number of accidents fell from 1,599 to 1,523, and that of fatalities from 37 to 17. Most of the latter were unconnected with machinery and none were due to defective guarding. — Accidents.

4. Twelve prosecutions were instituted during the year and nine convictions obtained, one of these being reversed on appeal. — Prosecutions.

5. After a conference with the Mill-Owners' Association an inquiry as to the proper ventilation of mills was instituted with a view to legislation. — General.

The Steam Boiler Inspection Act.

1. The number of boilers on the register in the Presidency, including Sind and Aden, was 2,442 or 87 more than in the previous year. Regular inspections numbered 1,541 against 1,503 and casual visits 851 against 736. The percentage of boilers not inspected was 37·7. — Number of boilers and inspections.

2. The Boiler Commission held 8 sittings during the year to hear cases of appeal from pressures allowed by the Senior Inspector and to decide various technical and practical questions. — Boiler Commission.

3. Seventeen irregularities were detected during the year. In the six prosecutions which were completed, 4 persons were convicted and fined sums varying from Rs. 23 to Rs. 70. One case was withdrawn and one resulted in acquittal. — Offences.

4. Four examinations were held at Bombay and Karáchi and two at Aden. In all cases the number of candidates increased. Altogether out of 646 candidates, 212 were successful. — Engineer's examination.

5. The receipts rose from Rs. 50,377 to Rs. 54,826, and expenditure from Rs. 47,563 to Rs. 48,916. The closing balance of the fund was Rs. 1,64,146. — Financial result.

7. Trade.

For details *see* the Annual Trade Reports of the Bombay Presidency, Sind and Aden for 1903-1904 and tables under XXX.—Foreign Trade and Shipping—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

(1) PRESIDENCY PROPER.

The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency, including Government stores and treasure, rose in the past year by 32 crores or 26 per cent. to 154 crores. Government transactions rose to 25 crores or by 416 per cent. owing to abnormal movements in treasure. — General.

The private trade of the Presidency—Coasting and Foreign—was valued at 129 crores, the highest figure recorded, representing an increase of nearly 10 per cent. on the figures of the previous year. The foreign trade valued at 101 crores expanded by over 12 per cent., while the coasting trade valued at 27 crores showed an advance of nearly 3 per cent. The foreign trade is practically wholly absorbed by the Chief Port—Bombay, while of the coasting trade Bombay claimed nearly 79 per cent. and the subordinate ports 21 per cent.

Chief Port—Bombay.

I.—Foreign Trade.

General.

The aggregate foreign trade of Bombay totalled 101 crores—an increase of nearly 11 crores on last year—imports contributing 3 crores and exports nearly 8 crores to the increase. Imports and exports of Government treasure amounted to 10·45 crores and 10·25 crores respectively and are not included in the following figures.

Imports.

Imports of merchandise rose in value to nearly 30 crores—an increase of 2¼ crores. The increase is fairly general, but the most important increases are under the heads of "Yarn and Textile Fabrics" and "Articles of food and drink." Under the former head, the total increase is 1·40 crores. To this "Twist and Yarn" contribute an advance of 3 lákhs, and cotton manufactures an advance of over one crore, "Greys" and "Shirtings" alone suffering decreases of 14 lákhs and 32 lákhs respectively, apparently owing to local competition. The value of silk manufactures rose nearly 4 per cent. to 114 lákhs, while woolen fabrics showed an increase of 25 lákhs. All these increases are partly due to higher prices and partly represent an improvement in the volume of trade. Food-stuffs show an advance of 34 lákhs or 8 per cent. Grain imports shrank by 6 lákhs owing to less demand. Provisions rose by 17 lákhs, the increase being mainly under dates and other fruits. Tea was practically stationary. Sugar improved in value by nearly 17 lákhs, Mauritius alone supplying nearly 2 crores worth of cane sugar, which successfully competed with beet sugar in spite of the abolition of the countervailing duties during the year. Imports of Java sugar (nearly 15 lákhs) were more than imports of Continental sugar. Under other heads the most noticeable features are increases under horses (12 lákhs), hardware (10 lákhs), metals (28 lákhs), machinery and mill work (22 lákhs), dyeing and tanning materials (15 lákhs), wood, chiefly Siam and Burma teak (4½ lákhs), raw silk (5 lákhs), and gums and resins (4½ lákhs); while decreases appear under oils (16 lákhs), coal (4 lákhs), raw cotton (11½ lákhs), pearls and precious stones (4½ lákhs), raw hides (3 lákhs), and unclassed articles (15 lákhs).

Exports.

Exports are divided into two heads: (1) Re-exportation of foreign merchandise; (2) Exportation of Indian merchandise. Including treasure the total value rose from 46 crores to 53 crores, while excluding treasure the value increased by nearly 10 crores.

Exports of Foreign merchandise.

There was a check in the decline in this branch of trade which, chiefly through increases in cotton manufactures, metals and kerosine oil, improved by 38 lákhs or 17 per cent. Of a total trade of 265 lákhs, Persia is the chief recipient with 62 lákhs, but is still far behind its position of ten years ago.

Exports of Indian merchandise.

Exports of Indian merchandise improved by 10 crores. Raw cotton, twist and yarn, seeds, grain and pulse, and opium account for 90 per cent. of the total trade of 46 crores and, with the exception of seeds, all contribute to the increase. Exports of grain and pulse more than doubled, though the figures are still behind those of 1898-99. They increased by 191 lákhs or 124 per cent., the most important advances being in jowár and bájra (43 lákhs), and wheat (148 lákhs). The increase in wheat is mainly due to the demand from the United Kingdom caused by the deficiency in local crops and American supplies. Opium exports rose by 31 per cent. in quantity and 92 lákhs in value to nearly 3½ crores. Raw cotton rose by 7¼ crores owing to the large outturn and the shortness in the American crop. The total export of raw cotton amounting to 18 crores is the largest on record. Export of seeds showed a slight increase in quantity, but owing to the fall in prices a decrease of 61 lákhs in value. Yarn and textile fabrics, exports of which were valued at 1,061 lákhs, show an improvement of 74 lákhs, to which yarn contributed an increase of nearly 42 lákhs, and cotton manufactures one of 13 lákhs. Hides and skins improved by over 6 lákhs. The only other noticeable features are decreases in horns (4 lákhs), and manures (13½ lákhs), both of which are due to a return to a normal level after the inflation caused by recent famines.

Movements of treasure on private account resulted in an excess of imports over exports of over 1,249 lákhs. Net imports of gold were nearly doubled; 10½ crores were imported and 3½ crores exported, but the net imports of silver slightly declined, owing to less demand for shipments to the Straits Settlements.

Geographical analysis of the trade.

Sixty-two per cent. of the total trade is appropriated by Europe and 31½ per cent. by Asia. Trade between Bombay and Europe improved by 8¼ crores. Imports from and exports to the United Kingdom improved by 109 lákhs and 117 lákhs respectively. Of the total trade, the United Kingdom monopolised 28 per cent., while the other important competitors were France (7 per cent.), Belgium (6¾ per cent.), Germany (6½ per cent.), Italy (4½ per cent.), and Austria Hungary (4¼ per cent). The trade with Europe (exclusive of the United Kingdom) improved by nearly 6 crores. With Africa trade expanded by over one crore, the sugar industry of Mauritius giving it a percentage of 2¾ of the total foreign trade. Trade with America declined

by 12 lákhs mainly owing to the advance in imports of oil from Russia. Imports and exports from and to Asia have increased by 16 lákhs and 335 lákhs respectively. Hongkong and the Treaty Ports in China have together more than 16 per cent. of the total trade of Bombay. Japan is the largest consumer of Indian cotton and has about 6 per cent. The share of the British Empire in the total trade of Bombay fell from 45 per cent. to 43 per cent., though both imports and exports show substantial increases. In the import trade the percentage was practically the same (66 per cent.), but in exports it fell 1 per cent. to 29 per cent.

Shipping engaged in foreign trade.

The number of vessels engaged in the foreign trade rose by 95 to 1,838 with a tonnage of over 3,000,000. Of these 121 either entered or cleared in ballast. Forty-nine per cent. of the shipping was British, 5 per cent. German, and 7 per cent. French, against 47, 4, and 7, the respective figures last year.

II.—Coasting Trade.

General.

The value of the total private coasting trade increased by 76 lákhs or nearly 3 per cent. to 2,765 lákhs; of this the share of subordinate ports was only 591 lákhs.

Chief Port Bombay.

Altogether the import trade of Bombay improved by 85 lákhs, while the export trade declined by 16 lákhs.

Imports.

Imports from British ports in other Presidencies declined by 96 lákhs mainly owing to a decrease of 119 lákhs in Burma rice. Bengal coal and rice improved by 16 and 7 lákhs respectively, Madras rice by 32 lákhs, and Sind cotton by 24 lákhs. But Madras spices, Burma teakwood and Sind wheat decreased by 10, 5 and 29 lákhs respectively. Imports from Indian foreign ports increased by 60 per cent. to 427 lákhs, a rise due almost entirely to imports of raw cotton and wheat from Káthiáwár and Cutch. There was a small general increase in imports from other ports in the Presidency.

Exports.

Exports declined by 16 lákhs to 986 lákhs. Re-exports of foreign goods increased by 47 lákhs, while exports of Indian produce declined by over 50 lákhs. Exports of cotton piece-goods to Bengal and Madras decreased but increased to Sind and Burma. In exports to Indian foreign ports there was a decline of 11 lákhs, chiefly in food-stuffs. Exports to British ports in the Presidency show a falling off of 1 lákh in Indian produce.

Shipping.

The number of vessels engaged in the coasting trade with Bombay rose by over 4,000 to 56,481, steamers being 837 in number.

Subordinate Ports.

The aggregate private trade of subordinate ports rose by nearly 9 lákhs to 591 lákhs.

The main trade with British ports in other Presidencies consists in export of salt to Bengal and Madras. Owing to the damage done to salt works by the storm in May 1903 there is a drop of 17 lákhs in the Thána and Uran trade. The trade with foreign Indian ports is small but shows an increase of 9 lákhs. There is nothing noticeable in the trade between ports in the Presidency.

Shipping.

The total number of native craft engaged in the coasting trade appears to have decreased slightly while the tonnage involved increased slightly.

Land Trade of the Presidency Proper.

As compared with the last year, the total imports from and exports to external blocks during the year increased in volume from 651 to 674 lákhs of maunds and in value from 4,708 to 4,907 lákhs of rupees. The internal or local trade also advanced in quantity from 330 to 386 lákhs of maunds and in value from 2,386 to 2,819 lákhs of rupees.

I.—External Trade.

Imports.

The import trade showed an increase of 16 lákhs of maunds in volume and of 2·61 lákhs of rupees in value. Noticeable increases occurred in wheat (27·16 lákhs of maunds) and in metals (5·319 lákhs of maunds), that under the latter head being confined to manganese ore from the Central Provinces. There was a slight improvement in hides and skins, opium, stone and lime, and wool. All other articles showed a decline, especially "other food-grains" (32 lákhs of maunds), raw cotton (13 lákhs of maunds), and coal and coke (9 lákhs of maunds).

Exports.

Exports showed a small advance of 7·65 lákhs of maunds. The value, however, rose by 196 lákhs of rupees or 10·3 per cent. More than 60 per cent. of this rise is due to cotton fabrics, European and Indian, owing to the higher price of cotton caused by the speculations in the American crop. Of the exports, 57 per cent. were from the port of Bombay. A noticeable advance of 6 lákhs of maunds occurred under sugar and was shared by most of the external blocks. The next in importance are metals, cotton (manufactured European), wheat and railway plant and rolling stock with increases varying from 1·12 to 2·65 lákhs of maunds. The exports of salt and food-grains declined by 4·55 and 3·36 lákhs of maunds repectively.

II.—Local Internal Trade.

This branch of the trade consists mainly of transactions between the port of Bombay and the rest of the Presidency. The trade showed more activity than in the last year, the increase in quantity and value being 55 lákhs of maunds and 433 lákhs of rupees respectively. The transactions also exceeded the average by 7 per cent. in both quantity and value. The exports

to the port of Bombay showed a rise of 43 per cent., while exports from the port fell by 12 per cent. Advances were noticed in oil-seeds (13 lákhs of maunds), raw cotton and "other food-grains" (8 lákhs of maunds each), and sugar (5 lákhs of maunds). Railway plant and rolling stock receded by 1¾ lákhs of maunds.

(2) SIND.

The total value of the sea-borne trade of Sind during the year is the highest on record. It amounted to nearly 28 crores as against 22 crores in the previous year. Excluding Government stores and treasure, the total value was nearly 25 crores against 19¼ crores, showing an improvement of 29 per cent. It is divided into (1) Foreign and (2) Coasting trade.

CHIEF PORT—KARACHI.

I.—Foreign Trade.

Imports. Imports from and exports to foreign external ports increased in value from Rs. 13,53,72,362 to Rs. 19,36,02,989, an increase of nearly 6 crores or 43 per cent. on the Trade of 1902-03.

On the whole import trade there was an increase of 41 lákhs or nearly 8 per cent. as compared with the previous year. There is a decrease of nearly 20,000 gallons in the quantity of liquor imported, but there is only a trifling decrease of Rs. 2,000 in the total value owing to the importation of better qualities. The value of imported sugar rose by over 21 lákhs, after falling by 48 lákhs in 1902-03. There was a further decrease of about 30 lákhs in bounty-fed sugar and an increase in British and Egyptian sugar of 30 and 19 lákhs respectively. The countries contributing to the increase in British sugar imports were United Kingdom (17¼ lákhs), Mauritius (nearly 10 lákhs) and Straits Settlements (3 lákhs). Metals, coal, oils, and woolen piece-goods all show increases. The only important decrease in imports was in cotton goods and yarn. This was due to the high price of raw cotton.

Exports. The value of exports was more than double the average of the previous four years, and shows an increase of 71 per cent. as against last year, the figures being Rs. 12,79,11,857 and Rs. 7,47,38,119 respectively. Wheat and raw cotton are the principal causes of the increase. Wheat exports amounted to 7½ crores against 3¾ crores last year, an increase of Rs. 3,61,32,176. Most of it went to the United Kingdom. Cotton showed an increase of over 1¼ crores, Italy and Germany being the chief recipients with 56 and 41 lákhs respectively. The exports of rape-seed and til-seed rose by 13 and 10½ lákhs respectively. Rice, the only dutiable export article, fell by 10 lákhs in 1902-03 and shows this year a further decrease of nearly one lákh to Rs. 14,44,440.

Geographical distribution of trade. Of the total foreign trade Europe claimed 92 per cent., the United Kingdom alone claiming 59 per cent. as against 52 per cent. last year, while Africa, Asia and America divided the remaining 8 per cent.

Shipping. The total number of vessels employed in the foreign trade rose to 1,021 with a tonnage of 1,288,578 against 880 with a tonnage of 841,067 last year. Of these 255 were British, 19 Austro-Hungarian, and 59 Arab.

II.—Coasting Trade.

General. On the whole coasting trade there was a small decline of 2½ lákhs.

Imports. Imports improved by 33 lákhs from Rs. 3,34,10,689 to Rs. 3,67,08,355. The chief cause is an increase of 17½ lákhs in imports of Indian and foreign cotton goods from Bombay. Bombay claims 88 per cent. of the total import trade.

Exports. Exports show a decline of 35 lákhs to Rs. 1,77,70,912. Bombay claims 78 per cent. of the export trade. The high price of raw cotton combined with good crops caused an increase in the export trade in this article of 19½ lákhs. Most other exports show a decrease, the most noticeable one being a decrease of 28¼ lákhs in wheat, which is explained by the fact that large shipments were made direct to foreign countries owing to increased demand.

Shipping. The number of vessels engaged in the coasting trade decreased from 3,974 to 2,861, but the total tonnage remained nearly stationary at 10,47,253 tons.

III.—Trade with Subordinate Ports.

Excluding treasure there was a slight increase in the value of merchandise imported into and exported from the subordinate ports of Keti Bandar and Sirganda from Rs. 9,95,457 to Rs. 10,88,431.

SIND EXTERNAL LAND TRADE.

General. The external land trade of Sind is carried on with Afghanistan, Baluchistan and Seistan. The aggregate value of imports and exports (88½ lákhs) shows an increase of nearly 9 lákhs or 11 per cent. over that of last year, but is 13¾ lákhs less than that of 1901-02. Thus in spite of the blow dealt to the Nushki-Seistan trade route by the new Persian Tariff System and the almost prohibitive import and export duties levied by the Amir of Afghanistan, this branch of trade seems to be maintaining its existence.

The import trade shows an increase of 5¾ lákhs or 13 per cent. as compared with that of 1902-1903. The increase occurs chiefly in assafœtida, wheat, gram, pulse, hides, liquors, fish (dry), sugar (refined), tobacco and raw wool. There was a decrease however under horses, ponies and mules, sheep and goats, piece-goods, silk (manufactured), wood and wool (manufactured). Import Trade.

The export trade also shows an increase of 3¼ lákhs or 8 per cent. over last year's figures. The chief items responsible for the increase are: Indian piece-goods, dates, tea, and sugar. The chief heads showing a decrease are: wheat and other food-grains, for which, owing to the passing away of famine conditions in Southern and Western Afghanistan, there is a reduced demand. Export Trade.

(3) ADEN.

The total value of the trade of Aden increased by 90½ lákhs to 1,033½ lákhs. Foreign trade increased by 17¾ lákhs or 2·34 per cent., Indian trade increased by 80 lákhs or 61·37 per cent., while Inland trade decreased by 7¼ lákhs or 13·56 per cent. General.

The value of the import trade increased from 485 lákhs to 546 lákhs. The most noticeable increase was one of 29 lákhs under "Grain and Pulse"—chiefly rice and jowári from India. This was due to the large demand caused by the famine in Arabia. Coal showed an advance of 12 lákhs, Calcutta's share in the increase being 2 lákhs. Skins increased in quantity, but decreased by 2¾ lákhs in value. The chief causes of a rise of 3 lákhs under "Animals" were the continued purchase of camels by Government contractors and the high rates for cattle which prevailed in the local market. Grey piece-goods increased by 7¾ lákhs in value, Bombay claiming 2¾ lákhs of the increase. American imports of this description held their own in value, in spite of increased price, owing to the demand caused by their superior durability. Imports of Kerosine-oil increased both from Russia and America, the total increase being Rs. 2¾ lákhs in value. Salt increased by 24,825 tons in quantity and by 2 lákhs in value. Other noticeable increases are dates (2 lákhs), miscellaneous provisions (2½ lákhs), and spices (1 lákh), while decreases appear under ivory (3½ lákhs), tobacco (2¼ lákhs), and twist and yarn (over 2 lákhs). Imports.

The export trade increased in value from 404 lákhs to 440 lákhs. The chief cause of this increase was the famine in Arabia which accounted for an increase of almost 21½ lákhs under grain and pulse. Coffee exports decreased in quantity, but increased by over 4 lákhs in value. The only other noticeable features are decreases under Tobacco (nearly 2 lákhs) and Spices (1½ lákhs). Exports of ivory remained steady in spite of the fall in imports. Exports.

The total imports of treasure increased by 4¼ lákhs, the noticeable feature being the increase in imports of rupees from India owing to the fact that the rupee is tending to be substituted for the dollar, both locally and on the coast. The import of dollars from Austria fell from 55 lákhs to 11 lákhs. Exports of treasure to India rose from less than 4 lákhs to nearly 27 lákhs. Treasure.

One thousand three hundred and sixty-nine merchant vessels of a total tonnage of 2,842,997 entered the port, an increase of 124 vessels and 265,068 tons on the returns of the previous year. Country craft numbered 1,622 against 1,472. Of the merchant vessels, 704 were British, 153 British-Indian, 153 German, 136 French, and 97 Austrian. Shipping.

8. Public Works.

Civil Works.

The following major works were either in progress or completed during the year:—

1.—Civil Buildings.

The construction of masonry sluices for Government Salt Works at Wádala, Sewree and Sháik Misri Agar, Bombay, estimated to cost Rs. 5,543, Rs. 3,024 and Rs. 4,235, respectively were in progress. Quarters in two blocks for Sazedárs at Murdha, estimated to cost Rs. 8,024, and those at Dongri, Rai, Sonágar and Morwa, estimated to cost Rs. 4,087, Rs. 4,061, Rs. 4,012 and Rs. 4,058, respectively, were also in progress, and the work of renewing the pipes of the water-supply for the Salt establishment at Rai, estimated to cost Rs. 9,251, was practically completed. Quarters for the Assistant Surgeon, Khárághoda, which were in progress in the previous year, were completed (cost Rs. 4,612). The work of replacing the 2½" cast-iron main with 4" earthenware pipes from Odu Village to the Salt works at Khárághoda, estimated to cost Rs. 13,131, was in progress. Certain additions and alterations to the bungalow of the Assistant Collector of Salt Revenue (cost Rs. 8,802) and the construction of a block of six rooms for the Salt Department kárkúns at Khárághoda (cost Rs. 5,476) were commenced and completed. Imperial Services, Salt.

Quarters for six observers in connection with the Government Observatory at Colába, Bombay, were in progress and Rs. 9,560 were spent. The new Observatory Buildings at Alibág commenced in the previous year, were in progress. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 26,533, against the estimate of Rs. 1,07,442, the total expenditure from the beginning being Rs. 1,30,875. Observatories.

Chap. IV.
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Mint.

In connection with His Majesty's Mint, Bombay, the rebuilding of a portion of the sea wall, the construction of latrines in the compound and the provision of a tiled floor to the main room of the Assay Office, estimated to cost Rs. 11,818, Rs. 2,887, and Rs. 4,002, respectively, were in progress and the compound wall was rebuilt at a cost of Rs. 4,913.

Post Offices.

Additions and alterations to the Post Office stables, Bombay, were carried out at a cost of Rs. 4,548, and the construction of a store shed in the compound of the General Post Office, Bombay, estimated to cost Rs. 2,655, was in progress. In connection with the new General Post Office, the works of clearing the site and making a road 50′ wide were commenced and Rs. 6,064 were spent. A combined Post and Telegraph Office with quarters for the Post Master at Thána was completed at a cost of Rs. 12,511. A combined Post and Telegraph Office at Ahmednagar, estimated to cost Rs. 19,846, was in progress. Additions and alterations to the Post Office at Belgaum were completed at a cost of Rs. 3,232. Additions and alterations to the combined Post and Telegraph Office at Lárkhána were commenced and completed at a cost of Rs. 5,968. The work of providing additional accommodation in the General Post Office at Karáchi, estimated to cost Rs. 8,224, was nearly completed.

Telegraph.

Additional signallers' quarters, with out-houses, for three married families in the Government Telegraph Office at Bhusáwal, estimated to cost Rs. 12,306, were in progress.

Provincial Services, Forests.

The bungalow for a Forest Officer at Dhulia, estimated to cost Rs. 12,616, commenced last year, was completed at a cost of Rs. 12,618.

Customs.

The construction of a Branch Custom House at Prince's Dock, Bombay, was in progress, the expenditure to date being Rs. 1,47,935. Additional office accommodation in the Customs House at Karáchi was provided at a cost of Rs. 6,470. Additions to the Customs staff-quarters at Kiamari were completed by the Port Engineer, Karáchi, at a cost of Rs. 10,530.

Treasury and Currency Buildings.

The extension of the Paper Currency building, Bombay, estimated to cost Rs. 1,61,880, was in progress. The Treasury stong room at Wadhwán Civil Station was completed at a cost of Rs. 4,671.

Land Revenue Buildings.

Mámlatdárs' Kacheries at Karjat and Bhiwndi, estimated to cost Rs. 42,053 and Rs. 35,691, respectively, were in progress. Additions and alterations to the old Jail buildings at Kaira for the accommodation of the Revenue and Registration records, and minor additions to the Collector's Office, Treasure room and Prisoners' cells, estimated to cost Rs. 12,694, were in progress. Extensions of the Record-room and Treasury of the Mámlatdár's Kacheri at Anand (cost Rs. 3,595) and of the Record-room of the Mámlatdár's Kacheri at Nadiád (cost Rs. 2,999) were carried out. The reconstruction of the left wing of the Mámlatdár's Kacheri at Málsiras in the Sholápur Collectorate, estimated to cost Rs. 5,961, was almost completed, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 5,405. Mámlatdárs' Kacheries at Párner and Shevgaon in the Ahmednagar District (estimated to cost Rs. 39,219 and Rs. 39,294, respectively) were in progress. A sum of Rs. 19,203 was spent on materials and foundations for the work of constructing Revenue buildings at Násik. The work of constructing quarters for the Mámlatdár at Peint was practically completed, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 3,684 against an estimate of Rs. 3,968. Certain additions and alterations to the Mámlatdár's Kacheri at Bhusáwal (estimate Rs. 3,403) were completed at a cost of Rs. 2,507. Certain improvements to the Record-room, etc., of the Mámlatdár's Kacheri at Sindkheda in the Khándesh District, estimated to cost Rs. 3,609, were completed at a cost of Rs. 3,454. The residence for a Revenue Officer at Dhulia (estimated to cost Rs. 12,616) commenced last year was completed at a cost of Rs. 12,616. A new Mámlatdár's Kacheri and Police Lines at Bail Hongal in the Belgaum District, estimated to cost Rs. 42,623, were commenced and an expenditure of Rs. 23,562 was incurred. Mámlatdárs' Kacheries at Ron and Hángal in the Dhárwár District and at Bádámi in the Bijápur District, estimated to cost Rs. 43,102, Rs. 39,266 and Rs. 35,383, respectively, were also commenced, and Rs. 17,880, Rs. 17,007 and Rs. 15,068, respectively, were expended. The Mámlatdár's Kacheri at Sirsi in the Kánara District (cost Rs. 35,696) and the Mahálkari's Kacheri at Khandála in the Sátára District (cost Rs. 15,938) were finally completed. The new Mahal Kacheri at Nágotna in the Kolába District (cost Rs. 19,624) and the Assistant Collector's bungalow at Alibág (cost Rs. 12,708), commenced in the previous year, were completed. The district bungalow at Athni in the Belgaum District, in progress in the previous year, was completed (cost Rs. 6,311). The Kardarate at Jamesabad, commenced last year, was completed at a total cost of Rs. 26,840 against the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 31,082. Additions and alterations to the Kardarate at Chachra, commenced last year, were also completed. The Dharmshala at Pithoro was converted into a Kardarate at a cost of Rs. 3,256, against an estimate of Rs. 3,381. The Local Fund bungalow at Jhole was also converted into a Kardarate at a cost of Rs. 2,787 against an estimate of Rs. 2,875. The Resident Magistrate's quarters at Matli, commenced last year, were completed at a total cost of Rs. 3,502 against an estimate of Rs. 3,712. Record-rooms at Karáchi for the Superintendent, Land Records and Agriculture, Sind, were completed at a cost of Rs. 17,632. The construction of Mukhtiarkars' Kacheries at Jacobabad and Káshmor, estimated to cost Rs 30,180 and Rs. 27,872, respectively, were in progress. At Lárkhána at the Collector's office with Treasury and Account offices, the Collector's bungalow with out-houses, and the bungalows for the two Assistant Collectors, mentioned in the previous year's report, were completed at costs of Rs. 1,21,482, Rs. 44,369 and Rs. 59,096 respectively. Additions and alterations to the Kardarate at Lárkhána were commenced and practically completed at a cost of Rs. 4,500.

A bungalow with out-houses for the A'bkári Inspector at Taloda (estimated amount Rs. 4,555) was in progress. The warehouse for storing gánja and subsidiary buildings at Ahmednagar were completed at a cost of Rs. 24,587. A warehouse at Vita, estimated to cost Rs. 8,195, for the storage of gánja was commenced and an expenditure of Rs. 7,328 was incurred. Excise Buildings.

Hot-water appliances for baths were fitted up at the Government House, Malabár Point, Bombay, at a cost of Rs. 10,304. The additional bed-rooms at Government House, Ganesh Khind, were completed at a co t of Rs. 36,231 against an estimate of Rs. 37,545. The work of renewing Zenana compound walls to the servants' quarters, Ganesh Khind, was almost completed at a cost of Rs. 5,904, the estimated amount being Rs. 6,138. The works of rebuilding certain servants' quarters at Ganesh Khind (estimate Rs. 5,571), renewing the ceiling of the Ball Room at Government House (estimate Rs. 13,209), renewing the roofs of Nos. 1 and 2 Staff Bungalows, of terraces and floors of arcades (estimates Rs. 19,392 and Rs. 4,571 respectively), renewing the floors of various rooms (estimate Rs. 10,466), were in progress. The block of two bed-rooms with bath-rooms for the Government House at Mahábleshwar, commenced in the previous year, was completed (cost Rs. 3,583). Residences for Local Governments, Government officers and Secretariat offices.

The work of converting the Nagarkhána at Bijápur into a museum, estimated to cost Rs. 3,939, was commenced, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 2,794. Museums.

A sum of Rs. 1,862 was spent in maintaining the Elephanta Caves at Ghárápuri, which are the only archæological remains in the Presidency District, and these were inspected by the Executive Engineer. Out of the eight archæological remains in the Thána District, seven were repaired or conserved at a cost of Rs. 451. All the eight were inspected by the Executive Engineer. Out of the ten archæological buildings in the Kaira and Panch Mahás District, six were repaired and four were conserved at a cost of Rs. 828. All of them were inspected by the Executive Engineer. Out of the 47 archæological buildings in the Ahmedabad District, 17 were conserved and one was repaired at a cost of Rs. 23,099 while 29 were inspected by the Executive Engineer. A photograph of the Mosque of Balol Khán Quazi at Dholka was taken. While excavating for the purpose of repairs the old floor of the Roza of Batwa (Burhan-ud-din Kutbul Alam's Tomb) some ancient gold and silver coins (the former weighing about 96 tolás and the latter about 6 tolás) were discovered and these were handed over to the Revenue Department. Out of the three archæological remains in the Surat and Broach District two were inspected by the Executive Engineer. All the three are in fairly good order. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 643. The archæological remains in the Poona District, *viz.*, the Hill Fort at Shivneri, the Ganesh Caves at Junnar, the tomb of Dilawarkhan at Khed, the Kárli Caves and the Bhaja Caves, were inspected by the Executive Engineer and found in good orderi. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 2,154 on works and Rs. 1,234 on repairs. The expenditure on works was for provision of quarters for a custodian and railing and gate to the entrance to the caves at Kárli. An experiment was made in destroying shrubs, roots, etc., in the walls and bastions of the Fort at Sholápur with Atlas Preservative A at a cost of Rs. 198. The only archæological remains inspected during the year by the Executive Engineer, Sholápur, were the Forts at Sholápur and Karmála. Repairs to the Malikarjun's temple at Karjat, Damdi Musjid at Ahmednagar, Laxmi Narayan's temple at Pedgaon, and Devi's temple at Mandavgan in the Ahmednagar District were carried out at a cost of Rs. 210, out of which Rs. 136 were expended in wire-fencing round the Laxmi Narayan's temple at Pedgaon. Damdi Musjid was inspected. Conservation and repairs of certain archæological buildings and remains in the Khándesh District were carried out and an expenditure of Rs. 344 was incurred during the year. The Pandavas' Wada at Erandol was inspected by the Executive Engineer. An expenditure of Rs. 135 was incurred in maintaining the archæological buildings in the Násik District, and the Executive Engineer inspected (1) the temple of Siddheshwar on Saptashring Hill, (2) the Pandav Lena Caves, (3) the Gondeshwar temple at Sinnar, and (4) the Aeshwar's temple at Sinnar. The three groups of dolmens at Konur in the Gokák Táluka in the Belgaum District were preserved, and the Asad Khan's Darga and the Jain temple in the Fort of Belgaum were repaired and maintained. In Dhárwár and Kánara the items on the list were maintained and preserved. In the Sátára District, the Budhist Caves in the Karád and Pátan Tálukas were repaired and kept in good order. At Bijápur the restoration of Gol Gumbaz, estimated to cost Rs. 11,032, was commenced and Rs. 2,271 were expended. Certain special repairs to the Ibrahim Roza (cost Rs. 18,247) and other buildings at Bijápur were carried out. In addition to these, the number of "Remains" inspected by the Executive Engineers were :—Belgaum 4, Bijápur 39, Dhárwár 8, Kánara 7, Ratnágiri and Kolába 1. The following are the four Remains of archæological interest in the Indus Left Bank Division, of which the first two are in charge of the Executive Engineer, Northern Hyderabad Canals District, and the other two in charge of the Executive Engineer, Central Hyderabad Canals District:—(1) Budhist Stupa at Thul Rukan; (2) Tomb of Nur Mahomed Kalhoro at Moro; (3) Tomb of Gulam Shah Kalhoro at Hyderabad; (4) Tomb of Gulam Nabi Kalhoro at Hyderabad. All of these were inspected by the Executive Engineers. His Excellency the Viceroy visited the two tombs at Hyderabad in November 1903. The following buildings and remains in the Indus Right Bank Division were inspected :—Jami Musjid and Yar Mahomed's Tomb at Khudabad, Dadu Táluka, Mir Masum's Minar and Tomb and the Masumi Sayed's tombs at Sukkur. A caretaker was engaged from 16th November Monuments and antiquities.

1903 to look after the archæological remains at Tatta. No expenditure was incurred during the year on archæological buildings and remains in the Indus Right Bank Division and only Rs. 37 were spent in the Indus Left Bank Division.

Educational: Colleges.

The construction of the Telang Memorial Students' Quarters in connection with the Elphinstone College, Bombay, including out-houses, cook-rooms, gymnasium, etc., estimated to cost Rs. 41,735, was in progress. The new Anatomical Rooms for the Grant Medical College, Bombay, were completed at a cost of Rs. 89,337 and furniture costing Rs. 1,625 was purchased against an estimate of Rs. 10,308. Additions and alterations to the Mahalaxmi Female Training College, Ahmedabad, with certain additional works subsequently sanctioned, were in progress and Rs. 65,942 were spent up to date. The construction of additional buildings in connection with the Male Training College, Ahmedabad, was also in progress and Rs. 43,099 were spent up to date. The two Lecture Halls at the Deccan College, Poona, were completed at a cost of Rs. 18,056. Additional Students' Quarters and subsidiary buildings at the Deccan College, Poona, were in progress, the estimated amount being Rs. 78,163. Additions and alterations to workshops, College of Science, Poona, were completed at a cost of Rs. 7,499. The Male Training College, Poona, is approaching completion, the total expenditure being Rs. 1,42,480 against an estimate of Rs. 1,76,648. The Female Training College, Poona, is almost completed, the expenditure being Rs. 49,859 against an estimate of Rs. 57,293. The construction of new buildings at the Training College, Dhárwár, providing quarters for 50 masters, commenced in the previous year, was completed at a cost of Rs. 42,658. Residential quarters for the masters of the Training College at Hyderabad, commenced last year, were completed at a total cost of Rs. 34,147 against an estimate of Rs. 33,373 and Rs. 2,852 were expended against an estimate of Rs. 2,870 for providing furniture for these quarters.

Schools.

The extensions of the Local Boards' Schools at Murbad and Deheri were carried out at a cost of Rs. 2,843 and Rs. 2,698 respectively, and that of the one at Dáhánu, estimated to cost Rs. 7,027, was in progress. The Hostel for the High School at Nadiád (cost Rs. 31,889) and that for the Telang High School at Godhra (cost Rs. 18,753) which were in progress in the previous year were completed. The School House for boys and girls at Mahudha which was in progress in the previous year was completed (cost Rs. 14,103). Materials for the construction of the new High School at Ahmedabad were collected, land was acquired, and foundations excavated and Rs. 50,111 were spent thereon. A dormitory for 28 boys at the Reformatory School, Yerávda, was completed at a cost of Rs. 10,033. The School House at Belhe in the Poona District (Local) was completed at a cost of Rs. 3,198. A School House at A'lé in the Poona District, estimated to cost Rs. 6,176, was in progress. A School House at Lonavla in the Poona District (Deposit contribution), estimated to cost Rs. 6,659, was in progress. The work of a new School House at Sangola in Sholápur (Deposit contribution), estimated to cost Rs. 9,076, was commenced at the end of the year. School Houses at Shevgaon, Belapur and Akola (Local) in the Ahmednagar District were completed at costs of Rs. 5,468, Rs. 6,728 and Rs. 6,596 respectively. Additions to the School House at Kopargaon (Local) in the Ahmednagar District were made at a cost of Rs. 3,418. A School House for 150 boys at Chandori, táluka Niphád in the Násik District (Local), estimated to cost Rs. 4,303, was in progress. A Boarding House with out-houses for the Training School, Dhulia, estimated to cost Rs. 38,630, was in progress during the year and was almost completed. A Hostel with out-houses for the Garud High School, Dhulia, estimated at Rs. 36,653, was in progress, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 25,573. The construction of Superintendent's Quarters and subsidiary buildings in connection with the Training School at Dhulia, estimated to cost Rs. 9,398, was in progress. Furniture for the Boarding House for the Training School and Hostel for the Garud High School at Dhulia was provided at a cost of Rs. 4,935. School House (Local) at Mhasawad in the Khándesh District was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,905. School Houses at Varad, Nasirabad and Asoda, all in the Khándesh District and estimated to cost Rs. 3,592, Rs. 8,599 and Rs. 6,104 respectively, were in progress. The School House at Varad was practically completed. The School House at Jugal in the Athni Táluka (cost Rs. 2,782), in progress in the previous year, and School Houses at Kharosi (cost Rs. 3,368) and Ghodgeri (cost Rs. 3,341) in the Chikodi Táluka, all in the Belgaum District, and the Technical School at Wakawli in the Ratnágiri District (cost Rs. 3,922) were completed. The erection of Hostels for the High School at Ratnágiri was in progress, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 11,982. The work of converting the old Mámlatdár's Kacheri into a School House at Ankola in the Kánara District, estimated to cost Rs. 3,425, was commenced, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 2,946. Additions to the Deputy Educational Inspector's office at Karáchi, estimated to cost Rs. 3,305, were commenced.

Ecclesiastical.

The roof of the Protestant Church at Ahmednagar was improved at a cost of Rs. 3,337.

Law and Justice.

A lantern for the Chief Criminal Court and a new Record-room in His Majesty's High Court, Bombay, were provided at a cost of Rs. 10,534. Additions and alterations to the Subordinate Judge's Court at Wadgaon, Poona District, were completed at a cost of Rs. 3,889. The Court House for the District and Subordinate Judges at Násik was almost completed at an expenditure of Rs. 95,668 against the estimate of Rs. 94,964. The Subordinate Judge's Court House at Belgaum, commenced in the previous year, was completed (costs Rs. 20,322). The Subordinate Judge's Court House at Vita in the Sátára District (cost Rs. 14,926) and the new bungalow for the Assistant Judge at Bijápur (cost Rs. 13,435) were completed. The additions and alternations to the Adalat Buildings at Ratnágiri, commenced in the previous year, were in progress, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 1,184. Resident Magistrates' Court

Houses at Sujawal, Mirpur Sakro and Rohri were completed at a cost of Rs. 3,515 and Rs. 3,557 and Rs. 5,057 respectively. The conversion of Barrack No. 40 at Sukkur into Judge's quarters and Judicial and Revenue Courts, estimated to cost Rs. 79,727, was practically completed.

Jails. Quarters for clerks and warders in the District Jail at Dhárwár, estimated to cost Rs. 15,060, were commenced, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 5,034. The new Jail at Karáchi and the conversion of the sub-jail at Sukkur into a District Prison, estimated to cost Rs. 3,53,865 and Rs. 2,31,991 respectively, were in progress.

Police. A new Hospital for the City Police at Byculla, Bombay, estimated to cost Rs. 1,10,567, was in progress. Police Lines at Dáhánu, estimated to cost Rs. 6,627, were in progress. The bungalow for the District Superintendent of Police, Broach, which was in progress in the previous year, was completed at a cost of Rs. 13,207. Additions to the Police Lines at Dholka in the Rewa Kántha Agency, estimated to cost Rs. 3,860, were in progress. A block of 14 rooms for the Police at Rájpur in the Pálanpur Agency, commenced in the previous year, was completed (cost Rs. 4,509). The work of converting the Gáikwár's Haveli into a Police Station at Ahmedabad, which was in progress in the previous year, was almost completed except the bungalow for the Assistant Police Superintendent and Rs. 76,631 were spent to date. New Mounted Police Lines at Sádra were completed (cost Rs. 43,598). Foot Police Lines at Sádra and Police Quarters at Satlasna in Mahi Kántha, estimated to cost Rs. 53,755 and Rs. 4,701 respectively, were in progress. A site at Bhamburda for the New Head Quarter Police Lines at Poona was acquired and materials to the extent of Rs. 17,309 were purchased. The project is estimated at Rs. 2,84,000. The Police Lines at Sinnar in the Násik District were completed at a total cost of Rs. 12,506 against an estimate of Rs. 12,557. The Police Lines in connection with the Mahálkari's Kacheri at Bhadgaon in the Khándesh District were completed during the year at at a cost of Rs. 3,402 against an estimated amount of Rs. 3,642. A bungalow with out-houses for the District Superintendent of Police, Kolába, estimated to cost Rs. 14,474, was commenced, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 2,909. The construction of Police Superintendent's bungalow with out-houses at Lárkhána, Head Quarter Police Lines at Sukkur, Police Lines at Keti Bandar and Landhi and re-roofing of the rural and armed Police Lines at Sehwan were completed at costs of Rs. 29,397, Rs. 1,02,918, Rs. 3,000, and Rs. 2,600 and Rs. 5,247 respectively. New Police Lines at Lárkhána, estimated to cost Rs. 88,910, were in progress.

Medical. The construction of a Vaccination Depôt at Parel, Bombay, was in progress and Rs. 51,745 were spent up to date. Land was acquired for the extension of the Grant Medical College, Sir J. J. Hospital, and Chemical Laboratory, Bombay, and an award for Rs. 4,09,411 was made. Additions to the Pilgrims' Camp at Pir Pao in connection with the annual pilgrimage to Hedjaz were carried out at a cost of Rs. 11,437. In connection with St. George's Hospital at Bombay, the construction of (1) Female Hospital, (2) Sweepers' Quarters, (3) Steward and Warrant Officers' Quarters, (4) Servants' Quarters, (5) Small-pox Pavilion and (6) Mortuary, estimated to cost Rs. 54,488 (for plinth only), Rs. 8,377, Rs. 51,199, Rs. 43,334, Rs. 26,172 and Rs. 7,803, respectively, were in progress and certain additions to the Laundry were carried out and certain fittings provided at a cost of Rs. 3,425. Improvements to the drains of the Lunatic Asylum at Colába, Bombay, were carrried out at a cost of Rs. 9,486. Extra works were carried out at the Narotamdas Madhavdas Lunatic Asylum at Nowapáda, near Thána, at a cost of Rs. 25,517 and a sum of Rs. 2,904 was spent on the erection of an oil engine and a pump. An infectious ward at Mátherán was completed at a cost of Rs. 6,174. The work of providing Hospital accommodation for eight patients and quarters for Hospital Assistant, Lunatic Asylum at Ahmedabad, was commenced and completed (cost Rs. 5,618). The work of sanitary improvements to the Sassoon Hospital at Poona was in progress, Rs. 50,452 having been expended on the work up to date. The work of removing the European Plague Hospital from the Alexandra Hotel and erecting it near the Sangam Bridge was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,812 against the estimated amount of Rs. 2,914. A Dispensary at Indápur in the Poona District, estimated to cost Rs. 5,581, was in progress. Cells for insane patients and infectious disease wards in the Ripon Hospital at Ahmednagar were built at a cost of Rs. 12,139. Dispensaries at Shrigonda and Kopargaon (Local) both in the Ahmednagar District were completed at a cost of Rs. 6,147 and Rs. 6,594 respectively. A new Civil Hospital with out-houses at Dhulia, estimated to cost Rs. 50,107, was in progress. The Local Fund Veterinary Dispensary at Jalgaon in the Khándesh District was practically completed during the year at an expenditure of Rs. 7,413 against the estimate of Rs. 7,435. The dispensaries at Chikodi (cost Rs. 11,769) and Khánápur (cost Rs. 13, 387) in the Belgaum District, which were commenced in the previous year, were almost completed. The construction of the dispensary at Hangal in the Dhárwár District (cost Rs. 9,183) and the work of extending the compound wall of the Civil Hospital at Sátára (cost Rs. 5,240), both of which were commenced in previous year, were completed. Contagious diseases' wards in the Civil Hospital at Hyderabad were commenced, and the expenditure during the year was Rs. 7,606. The Hospital Assistant's quarters at Badin were completed at a cost of Rs. 2,704. The construction of a Dispensary at Khairpur Natheshah (Local) was completed at a cost of Rs. 13,325. The work of constructing an upper storey to No. 5 Native Ward, European General Hospital at Steamer Point, Aden, was carried out during the year at a cost of Rs. 7,507.

Miscellaneous. A bungalow on the Parsik Hill for the Executive Engineer, Thána District, estimated to cost Rs. 13,311, was in progress. Additions and alterations to the Superintendent's office at Mátherán, estimated to cost Rs. 8,169, were in progress. The Studio for the Photozincographic

office at Poona was constructed at a cost of Rs. 4,294. A new Bank building (Deposit contribution) was constructed in the compound of the Collector's Kacheri, Poona, at a cost of Rs. 16,605 against an estimate of Rs. 19,400. The construction of a store and work-shed in the compound of the Public Works Sub-divisional office at Sholápur, estimated to cost Rs. 4,243, was in progress, the expenditure being Rs. 3,996. Additions and alterations to the Local Fund workshop at Dhulia, estimated at Rs. 5,084, were in progress during the year. A new market at Mirpur-Batoro (Local) was commenced and completed at a cost of Rs. 4,342.

2.—COMMUNICATIONS.

During the year Rs. 4,55,387 were expended on original works connected with roads. Of this Rs. 2,71,643 were provided by Provincial and Rs. 1,83,744 by Local Funds. The principal works in progress were the following :—

Metalled Roads—Bridged and drained throughout.

Northern Division ... Road from Olpád to Sahol (Local).
Mehmadabad-Dákor Road, 1st Section (Provincial).

Central Division ... Kotumbighât deviations on the Násik-Balsad Road (Provincial).

Metalled Roads—Partially bridged and drained.

Northern Division ... Road from Morkhadak to Wag River (Provincial).
Mehmadabad-Dákor Road, 2nd Section (Provincial).
Dohad-Limdi Road (Provincial).
Dohad-Alirájpur Road (Provincial).

Central Division ... Ghorda-Kondáibári Road (Provincial).
Ghorda-Chinchpáda Road, 2nd Section, from 52nd mile of Dhulia-Surat Road to Visarwádi (Provincial).

Unmetalled Roads—Bridged and drained throughout.

Central Division ... Ghoti-Shirghât Road (Provincial).

Unmetalled Roads—Partially bridged and drained.

Northern Division ... Road from Khodala to Mokháda (Provincial).
Road from Manor to Kase (Provincial).
Road from Kalyán to Karjat (Local).
Road from Wáwla (Gaimukh) to Ghodbandar (Local).
Road from Madhi Railway Station to Mándvi (Provincial).

Central Division ... Constructing the first five miles of the Paud-Bhorcas Road (Provincial).
Completing the road from Dimbhakhurd to Bhimáshankar (Provincial).
Kotul-Brálimanwáda Road (Provincial).
Chinchpáda feeder road (Local).
Shirpur-Chopda Road, 1st Section, from Dahiwad in mile No. 88 of Bombay-Agra Road, to Aner river (Local).
Taloda-Nandurbár Road (Local).
Párola-Dharangaon Road (Local).
Gorana-Sindkheda Road (Local).
Amalner-Párola Road (Local).

Southern Division ... Bijápur-Shedbál Road, section from Athni to Kágvad *viâ* Shedbál Railway Station (Provincial).
Bijápur-Shedbál Road, section from Honvád to Athni (Provincial).
Road from Karajgi Railway Station to Devgiri and on to the Poona-Bangalore Road (Provincial).

Southern Division ... Road irom Nágothna to Roha over Bhisikhind (Local).
Uran-Jassai Road (Local).

Roads cleared—Partially bridged and drained.

Southern Division ... Road from Indi to Shindgi *viâ* Almel, 1st Section (Local).

Boat-bridges and ferries.

The work of reconstructing the Koney Bridge at Kárwár and that of rebuilding the bridge in mile No. 221 of the Poona-Bangalore Road in the Belgaum District, estimated to cost Rs. 20,446 and Rs. 9,173, were commenced, and Rs. 17,717 and Rs. 6,362, respectively, were

expended. The construction of a new ferry boat at Máhuli in the Sátára District was completed at a cost of Rs. 4,161. The construction of an iron ferry boat at Umbraj was nearly completed at a cost of Rs. 3,068.

Accommodation for travellers.

A rest-house at Jhálod, estimated to cost Rs. 4,561, was in progress. A combined Chiefs' and Travellers' bungalow at Godhra was commenced and completed at a cost of Rs. 10,590. A new Travellers' bungalow at Sholápur, estimated to cost Rs. 11,217, was commenced and almost completed, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 11,208. A rest-house at Bidi on the Belgaum-Linganmath Road and an inspection bungalow at Chiplun in the Ratnágiri District, estimated to cost Rs. 5,432 and Rs. 3,687, were commenced, and Rs. 3,383 and Rs. 3,478, respectively, were expended. The construction of the Travellers' bungalow at Jacobabad was completed at a cost of Rs. 10,795.

Arboriculture.

Nurseries were maintained in the Broach, Panch Mahâls, Ahmedabad, Bijápur, Kánara and Sátára Districts. Planting, watering and fencing of road-side trees continued to receive careful attention throughout the Presidency. A number of new trees were planted along various roads in the Sholápur and Násik Districts.

3.—Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

Water-supply.

The construction of a well at Kumbholaj (Local) in the Kaira and Panch Mahâls District was completed (cost Rs. 2,782). A well at Vehera (Local), also in the Kaira and Panch Mahâls District, estimated to cost Rs. 3,686, was commenced. Improvements to the old well at Bail-Hongal and the construction of a well at Budikop, both in the Belgaum District, were in progress, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 1,111 and Rs. 827, respectively. Improvements to the Thal Baodi at Bijápur were in progress, and Rs. 4,164 were expended thereon.

Sewerage and drainage.

The drainage of the City of Ahmedabad, a municipal work, was continued and Rs. 1,59,226 were spent.

Harbours.

Metalling the kacha road from Broach Bundar to Bechraji Owara, estimated to cost Rs. 7,771, sactioned from the Northern Group Ports Fund, was in progress.

Miscellaneous.

The construction of a road between the Times of India Press and the Anjuman-i-Islam School Building, Bombay, and the work of providing and fixing 3″ cast-iron water pipes and hydrants to the Queen's Parade Road, Bombay, estimated to cost Rs. 3,788 and Rs. 3,533, respectively, were in progress. Cast-iron water pipes with additional hydrants for watering the road near the Band Stand at Bombay were provided at a cost of Rs. 3,047.

4.—Military Works.

General remarks.

The following stations were under the control of the Public Works Department during the year :—

> Baroda, Bhúj, Surat and Thána in the Bombay District; Ahmedabad and Rájkot in the Deesa District; Ahmednagar, Khandála, Sirúr, Purandhar and Sátára in the Poona District.

Buildings in the plains.

The following major works were in hand during the year :—Special repairs to Barrack No. 2 at Khandála were completed at a cost of Rs. 15,402. The work of raising the roof of the (Married) quarters in the British Infantry Lines at Ahmednagar was completed at a cost of Rs. 7,428. Improvements to the roof of the Quarter-Master's store in the British Infantry Lines at Ahmednagar were completed at a cost of Rs. 4,514. The construction of a laundry in the Station Hospital (estimate Rs. 3,000), of two additional rooms for the Royal Artillery cook-house (estimate Rs. 3,302), and the work of laying a single layer of country tiles on the iron roofs of huts outside the Fort at Ahmednagar (estimate Rs. 3,388), were in progress. The work of increasing the height of the Stop Butt of the Native Infantry Range, Camp Ahmedabad, was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,850.

Commissariat buildings.

The work of building a set of quarters for a Commissariat Sergeant at Ahmednagar, estimated to cost Rs. 7,645, was in progress.

Studs.

Two rooms were added to the Line Overseer's quarters in the Remount Depôt at Ahmednagar at a cost of Rs. 2,305. A Cinerator at the Remount Depôt was constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,094. Additional accommodation in one set of the Line Overseer's quarters, estimated at Rs. 1,696, was in progress.

Water-supply.

The extension of the water-supply in the Ahmedabad Camp was completed at a cost of Rs. 6,088. The head works of the Páshan Tank and the distribution mains in Kirkee, including the service pipes of Military buildings, were maintained in an efficient state at a cost of Rs. 3,144. On account of the low level of water in the tank in the hot weather, the water supplied between 10th May and 22nd July 1903 was not filtered.

Minor works and repairs.

No other new works of importance were carried out during the year, operations being confined to minor works and maintenance and repairs of existing buildings, water-supply works and cantonment roads.

9. Irrigation.

In the year 1903-1904, the expenditure on Irrigation Works throughout the Presidency amounted to Rs. 52 lákhs as compared with 60 lákhs in the previous year. This outlay was divided between Sind and Presidency proper in the proportion of 2 to 1.

2. The expenditure was distributed under different heads as under:—

Imperial.

Capital—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Major Works—			
Protective Works	1,16,889		
Productive „	9,08,534		
		10,25,423	
Minor Works and Navigation—			
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept ...	.....	(a) 7,34,550	
Revenue—			
Major Works—			
Protective Works	61,197		
Productive „	7,77,624		
		8,38,821	
Minor Works and Navigation—			
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept ...	.....	3,37,762	
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept ...	.....	13,71,854	
Agricultural Works—			
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept	.....	(b) 6,65,398	
Contribution Works	.....	26,142	
Construction of Protective Irrigation Works—			
Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept	.....	2,28,803	
	Total, Imperial		52,28,753

Provincial.

Capital—			
Minor Works and Navigation	.....	3,193	
Revenue—			
Minor Works and Navigation	.....	9,637	
	Total, Provincial		12,830
	Grand Total ...		52,41,583

3. The total is classified as follows:—

	Deccan and Gujarát.	Sind.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
Works	(c) 8,35,850	12,85,028	21,20,878
Repairs	(d) 3,24,095	(e) 14,98,586	18,22,681
Establishment	4,39,160	7,65,458	12,04,618
Tools and Plant	59,781	35,831	95,612
Suspense Account	—3,759	1,553	—2,206
Total ...	16,55,127	35,86,456	52,41,583

	Rs.
(a) Inclusive of Expenditure in England	4,954
(b) Do. do.	18,735

(c) Exclusive of Rs. 547 Receipts on Capital Account.

(d) { Inclusive „ 61 on account of (3) Compensation.
Do. „ 1,073 on account of Refunds of Revenue.

(e) Do. „ 66 do. do.

DECCAN AND GUJARÁT.

Northern Division.

Ahmedabad District. Háthmati Canal.

The area irrigated from the Háthmati Canal was 1,294 acres as compared with 287 acres in the previous year and 134 acres in the year before. The increase in the irrigated area was due to the supply of water again approaching the normal after a series of years of short supply.

Khári Cut Canal.

2,985 acres were irrigated from the Khári Cut against 1,098 acres in the previous year. Special repairs to the masonry outlets of the Chandola Tank were completed at a cost of Rs. 2,531 and Rs. 900 were spent on strengthening the bank of the Chandola feeder above Lali Bridge. A sum of Rs. 39,567 was paid for land compensation in connection with the Khári Cut Extension Scheme of which Rs. 28,376 was on account of the land acquired for the Bokh Reservoir.

Khári Sluices.

The Khári sluices were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,897 and Rs. 1,542 were spent on minor works and special repairs. A prolific weed, called locally Ghá Bájeria which grew up during the famine years choking the Khári river and impeding its flow, was partly removed at a cost of Rs. 1,013. This work is still in progress.

Tanks.

Rs. 2,877 were spent on improving 2 tanks and Rs. 9,171 on repairing 11 small tanks. A scheme for the gradual improvement of all the old tanks is under consideration.

Kaira and Panch Mahals District.

The Tranza, Wangroli and Goblaj tank works were in progress and Rs. 25,607, Rs. 23,544 and Rs. 34,929 respectively were spent. The Goblaj tank filled in the monsoon of 1903 and was instrumental in maturing and saving nearly 3,000 acres of rice under the Khári Sluices. The work of completing the Muwalia Tank and right bank canal was in progress and Rs. 7,758 were expended. A sum of Rs. 1,03,012 was paid as compensation for the land acquired in connection with 9 tanks, while Rs. 3,737 were spent on improving 3 and Rs. 5,792 on repairing 8 tanks.

The Karamsad Drainage, which was in progress in the previous year, was completed at a cost of Rs. 32,407. To protect the villages of Kanjri and Wadtal from floods, two protective banks were thrown along the drainage channel of the Karamsad drain at a cost of Rs. 4,182.

Surat and Broach District.

The Asarsa and Hánsot Reclamation works were completed at a cost of Rs. 14,680 and Rs. 11,433 respectively.

A sum of Rs. 1,659 was spent in diverting the Kolawna Itola Channel.

Twenty-four irrigation tanks were repaired and 1 was improved at a total cost of Rs. 25,103 of which Rs. 100 were contributed by the ryots concerned.

Central Division.

Protective Works. Nira Canal.

On the Nira Canal, the new works carried out during the year consisted of raising the banks of certain distributaries, widening the section, and building new bridges in places. The capital outlay of the year was Rs. 5,680 and the expenditure on maintenance and repairs Rs. 23,862. The area irrigated was kharif 16,005 acres, rabi 14,633 acres, total 30,638 acres against 45,961 acres the average of the three years ending 1902-1903. The monsoon was satisfactory and the rainfall was ample for the dry crops. The early rabi rainfall being also plentiful, the cultivators did not require water for any large area of rabi crops. The demand for all crops ordinarily dependent on rainfall was therefore abnormally low. The operations of the year resulted in a net assessed revenue of Rs. 1,70,713 which is equivalent to 2·99 per cent. on the total capital outlay. The corresponding revenue and percentage in the previous year were Rs. 1,69,388 and 2·98 respectively. The area of perennial crops irrigated was 8,587 acres and the revenue derived therefrom Rs. 1,80,097, the figures under both heads being the highest on record. This result, notwithstanding a contraction of area caused by favourable rainfall, is due to the extension of sugarcane cultivation in general and a special extension of water-supply to immature crops (*adsali*) beyond the 12 months allowed. The year's results emphasize the conclusions of the Irrigation Commission that neither cultivators nor Government can expect to derive the utmost benefit possible from the canal unless crops for which there is demand both in good seasons and bad are specially encouraged. An important step was taken in this direction by the orders passed in Government Resolution No. W.I.-2894 of 17th December 1903 for introducing the block system on the Nira Canal. Preparations for introducing the block system were begun in February 1904. The object of the system is to locate the irrigation in each village for a term of years in selected areas, so that instead of being scattered and shifting as at present it may be concentrated in blocks and treated as more or less permanent. At the same time the system will enable canal water to be economically utilized and the benefits of irrigation equitably distributed over a larger number of villages than at present.

Shetphal Tank. This is the third year in which the Shetphal Tank has been in operation. The area irrigated was 417 acres of kharif and 587 acres rabi, total 1,004 acres as compared with 216 acres in the previous year. Cultivators were encouraged to grow surgarcane by a special reduction of water rate during the year. Though the work has not been long in operation, the growth of irrigation is satisfactory and the results are expected to be even more marked in future years. The expenditure against capital account during the year was Rs. 11,413 and the maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 1,048.

Mhaswad Tank. The capital expenditure during the year on the Mhaswad Tank amounted to Rs. 1,160 and was incurred in constructing 5 vertical falls and some earthwork in miles 5 and 6 of the Pandharpur Branch Canal. The area irrigated during the year was kharif 2,354 and rabi 2,044 acres, total 4,398 against 6,065 the average of the last three years. The decrease is due to the fact that the average of the last three years is large because it includes an abnormal year (1901-1902) when the rainfall was much below the average and there being water in the tank the area irrigated was much larger than usual.

Maladevi Tank. The original proposal was to construct an earthen dam at Maladevi to form a storage reservoir for the Ojhar Right Bank Canal the earthwork of which was completed as a famine work and also for the supply of the Ojhar Left Bank Canal. The site at Maladevi having proved to be entirely unsuited for an earthen dam of the height proposed, the work is in abeyance, fresh surveys having been undertaken for sites for large masonry dams higher up the Pravara Valley; a favourable site has been found at Bhandardarra and a project for a masonry dam there will shortly be submitted. It is proposed also to enlarge and extend the Ojhar Left Bank Canal and a survey estimate for this was submitted during the year.

Chankapur Tank. The work on the Chankapur Tank was commenced in earnest in November 1903 having been twice previously opened as a famine work in 1896-97 and 1900-01. The whole of the excavation for the puddle trench for the southern embankment was completed during the year and was mostly filled in. The progress for the central masonry dam and waste weirs has been very satisfactory on the whole though considerable trouble was met with in the river bed. This difficulty has now been overcome and no difficulty is anticipated in future. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 55,918.

Lower Panjhra River Works : Mukti Tank. The maximum storage during the year in the Mukti Tank was 214·61 millions cubic feet against 268·75 millions cubic feet in the previous year, the full contents of the tank being 342·4 millions cubic feet. The total area irrigated by the system including the dry crop land was 2,211 acres against 2,503 acres in the previous year. The revenue during the year assessed from all sources was Rs. 10,981.

Kadwa River Works Waghad Tank. The lower weir of the Waghad Tank was completed during the year at an expenditure of Rs. 1,031.

Palkhed Canal. The area irrigated from the Palkhed Canal was 353 acres kharif and 1,784 rabi, total 2,137 against 1,731 acres, kharif 928 and rabi 803 acres last year. The reduction in the kharif area was due to ample rainfall at the beginning of the season, the early cessation of which caused the large increase in the rabi area.

Lakh Canal. There was a marked decrease in the irrigated area on the Lakh Canal, it being 186 acres only against 1,206 in 1902-03, and this was due to the same causes as given under Ojhar Left Bank Canal.

Mutha Canals. The work of providing automatic sluice gates for the waste weir of Lake Fife was approaching completion towards the end of the year. The expenditure of the year on the gates amounted to Rs. 2,76,190 and the total capital outlay on the Mutha Canals Rs. 2,78,847. A credit of Rs. 11,214 was afforded to the capital account of the canals by a corresponding debit to the revenue account for the value of portions of weir which ceased to be of use on account of the new automatic gates. The expenditure on maintenance and repairs was Rs. 17,165 on the Mutha Canals and Rs. 17,235 on the Poona Water-supply, total Rs. 34,400. The area irrigated was kharif 6,437 acres, rabi 337 acres, total 6,774 acres against 8,925 acres, the average of the three years ending 1902-1903. The fall in the area was solely due to a decrease in the irrigation of dry monsoon crops owing to seasonable rainfall. The rainfall from July to September was found sufficient for such crops. The operations of the year resulted in a net assessed revenue of Rs. 1,92,288 which is equivalent to 2·69 per cent. on the total capital outlay. The corresponding revenue and percentage in the previous year were Rs. 1,65,427 and 2·42, respectively. If the book debits due to the accident of the transfer of capital expenditure to revenue be omitted, the percentage of net revenue on capital outlay for the previous year would be 3·05 and for the year under report 2·89. The year's revenue was affected by a reduction of rate from 8 to 6 annas per 1,000 gallons for the water-supply to the Military Buildings in the Poona Cantonment. The area of sugarcane irrigated was 4,144 acres and the revenue derived Rs. 1,46,683, the figures under both heads being the highest attained during the last 8 years. A project for two additional storage reservoirs for these canals estimated to cost about Rs. 40,65,000 was submitted to Government during the year. Surveys of contour areas of the lake basin were made during the year with a view to determine the reduction in contents due to silt deposits since the lake was constructed 30 years ago. A project for improvements to the Poona Cantonment Water-supply estimated at Rs. 2,96,437 is still under consideration.

Out of a total expenditure on Maintenance and Repairs (exclusive of Tools and Plant) of Rs. 7,462 a sum of Rs. 2,928 was spent on special repairs to the tower of the Perennial Canal. This consisted of the substitution of a more powerful lifting gear to one of the cone valves and iron brackets in place of wooden ones to the other three. Four self-registering rain gauges have been placed at suitable places on the catchment and the total expenditure on this item was Rs. 2,177. Ekruk Tank.

There is practically no decrease in the area irrigated when compared with the average of the last three years, but as compared with 1902-1903 the difference is nearly 900 acres in favour of the year under report due to a large supply of water in the tank.

Minor Works and Navigation—Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.

Although the Mhaswa Tank was full, the irrigation amounted to 56 acres in kharif and 125 in the rabi season, total 181 acres against 265 acres in the previous year. The revenue assessed from all sources during the year was Rs. 1,029. The lack of irrigation under this tank lies in the fact that the bulk of the cultivated area is cotton which in a good year does not require water. Mhaswa Tank.

The low supply in the Girna River during the kharif season and the hot weather preceding it caused a diminution in the cultivation of perennial and hot weather crops and necessitated to some extent remissions of water rates for the crops already sown and watered. On the other hand the seasonable fall of rain in the Jamda Canals District made other kinds of kharif crops independent of canal water. The kharif area was 83 acres and the rabi 1,162 acres, total 1,245 acres against 1,147 acres of the previous year. The revenue assessed from all sources during the year amounted to Rs. 5,267. Jamda Canals.

On the Ojhar Left Bank Canal there was a large falling off in the area irrigated which was 4,708 acres only against 10,089 in the previous year. This was due to ample rainfall during the kharif season and in the rabi season to the early drying up of the river the underground supplies to which had not recovered from the series of dry years. Ojhar Left Bank Canal.

The following table gives particulars regarding area irrigated, revenue, &c., in respect of the remaining first class works in the Poona Irrigation District:— Particulars regarding area, revenue, &c., in respect of the Matoba, Kasurdi, Shirsuphal and Bhadalwadi Tanks.

Name of Work.	Area irrigated, 1903-1904.			Average area irrigated for 3 years ending 1902-1903.	Revenue.		Remarks.
	Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.		1903-1904.	1902-1903.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Assessed Net Rs.	Assessed Net Rs.	
Matoba Tank ...	1,212	630	1,842	2,422	8,184	9,003	Area of monsoon crops was small on account of seasonable rainfall.
Kasurdi Tank ...	27	111	138	99	168	...	
Shirsuphal Tank .	263	492	755	948	417	...	The results of the year are characteristic of such tanks in regions of scanty and uncertain rainfall. The two tanks are only within 3 miles of one another and yet the Bhadalwadi Tank overflowed while the Shirsuphal was short of water. Under the former where there was water, the demand for irrigation was slack and under the latter which was more or less empty, the demand was intenseand could not be met.
Bhadalwadi Tank .	478	999	1,477	1,123	1,174	776	

The capital account of the Pathri Tank was opened during the year under report. The expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,35,866, including the outlay on ordinary works and land compensation before the opening of the capital account, but excluding Establishment and Tools and Plant. The work done during the year consisted of the completion of the dam, outlet and pitching, and at the end of the year only a small portion of the dam remained to be done and a considerable quantity of the pitching. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 48,433. Pathri Tank.

Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.

Násik and Ahmednagar Irrigation District.

From the 193 bandharas in the Násik and Ahmednagar District, there were irrigated 17,436 acres yielding a revenue of Rs. 81,210. The expenditure on repairs and improvements amounted to Rs. 11,046.

Khándesh Irrigation District.

During the year under report 10 works in Khándesh and 19 in the Násik portion of the district were improved and repaired at an expenditure of Rs. 6,600 and 12,855 respectively. Surveys for several other works were carried out during the year. The restoration of an old bandhara at Aklod Morana in Dhulia Táluka, estimated to cost Rs. 11,648, was undertaken, and the expenditure during the year was Rs. 5,003. To facilitate inspection of these old works accommodation for officers and subordinates is being provided for at convenient centres. In the year under report the construction of a bungalow at Satána in the Aram Valley, a tributary of the Girna, was put in hand. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,751 against the estimate of Rs. 4,756.

Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.

Talwáda and other tanks.

The work on the Talwáda Tank has been completed, with the exception of the distributaries, a project for which is in hand. The projects for the following works have been prepared and are under consideration:—

(1) Purmapada Tank.

(2) Dudhala Tank for water-supply to the town of Nandurbár.

(3) Chowgaon Tank.

Some work was done during the late famine on the first two works.

Visápur Tank.

The work on the Visápur Tank was commenced as a Famine work in 1899. The only work carried out during the year 1903-1904 was the excavation of a portion of the waste weir by the Deccan Convict Gang. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 14,996 and the total expenditure up to 31st March 1904 Rs. 9,62,446.

Budlihal Tank.

The murum covering on the dam of the Budhihal Tank was completed and the work on the outlet was in progress, almost all the material for the latter work having been purchased, including pipes and valves. The total expenditure during the year on the above was Rs. 16,208.

Surveys.

The survey for a canal under the Wadshivna Tank was completed and that for canals under Pathri Tank was in progress.

Southern Division.

First Class Works in Sátára, Bijápur and Dhárwár Irrigation Districts.

Details as to the various First Class Works in Sátára, Bijápur and Dhárwár Irrigation Districts are given in the following table:—

Name of Work.	1902-03.		1903-04.		Remarks.
	Area Irrigated.	Water-rate assessment.	Area Irrigated.	Water-rate assessment.	
	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	
Krishna Canal	5,963	36,523	4,062	39,991	
Rewári Canal	632	3,688	890	4,572	
Upper Mán River Works ...	663	2,290	711	3,304	
Yerla River Irrigation Works ...	838	6,465	2,912	13,366	
Chikhli Canal	409	1,900	249	1,270	
Máini Tank	1,502	5,168	1,227	6,260	
Muchkundi Tank	90	164	49	118	
Dambal Tank	382	1,041	194	543	
Medleri Tank	118	856	52	490	
Madag Tank	939	2,042	922	2,328	
Asundi Tank	168	852	104	565	

The falling off of area observable in most cases was due to the decreased demand for water in the monsoon owing to favourable rainfall. But on the other hand more water was available for irrigation in the cold weather, and the water rates for rabi being higher than those for monsoon crops the net result was, on many works, an increase of assessment in spite of the decreased area.

The expenditure on maintenance and repairs of the Krishna Canal was Rs. 6,877 and a sum of Rs. 1,400 was spent in constructing an overbridge on the road from Dudhandi to the Kundal Road Station in order to provide facilities for local traffic. The remaining works given in the above table were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 12,766.

Gokák Canal Storage Works.

The Gokák Canal Storage Reservoir is the only large irrigation work in this Division. As almost the whole of the storage during the hot weather is required to supply energy to the Gokák Mills, irrigation is almost entirely limited to the monsoon and rabi seasons. The rainfall was good and timely for crops, and consequently only 7,695 acres were irrigated as compared with 13,389 acres in 1902-1903. The tank overflowed on the 12th June 1903, and the level of the highest flood recorded during the year was 3·94 feet above the crest of the weir, the corresponding discharge being calculated at 61,000 cubic feet per second, which is equivalent to a run-off of 0·09 inch per hour from the catchment of 1,080 square miles.

Experiments were made to ascertain the rate of evaporation from the reservoir in the fair season with results recorded in the following table :—

Month.	Daily average.	Remarks.
	Feet.	
December 1903	0·020	
January 1904	0·020	
February 1904	0·020	
March 1904	0·024	
April 1904	0·026	
May 1904	0·035	

Capital expenditure was incurred on (1) extending distributary No. 1 of Gokák Canal (Shendi Nalla extension), (2) Dhupdal 25 feet weir and (3) constructing an Inspection bungalow at Balobal.

Gadikeri and Mavinkop Tanks.

Gadikeri and the Mavinkop tanks are works of the First Class which have consolidated assessment, and the revenue does not vary. The work of constructing outlets to the irrigation channel from the Gadikeri was completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 5,876 and a small expenditure was incurred in providing four pipe outlets on the Right Bank irrigation channel of the Mavinkop tank.

Madag Tank.

From June to December every year a large quantity of water runs to waste from the Madag tank part of which, it is thought, might be utilized for irrigation, and surveys were commenced for a canal to serve lands which are under command.

Small Tanks.

In the Belgaum District 63 small tanks were put into thorough repair at a cost of Rs. 36,134 and 43 surveyed at a cost of Rs. 4,033. In the Dhárwár District 89 tanks were repaired at a cost of Rs. 64,806, and a few tanks were surveyed in the Haliyal Táluka of Kánara.

Surveys.

An expenditure of Rs. 1,065 was incurred for making surveys for preparation of Sangogi and Hullur tank projects.

Work done by the Superintending Engineer on Special Duty.

Nira Survey.

The Nira Canal Survey is by far the largest scheme in the Bombay Presidency excluding Sind. The area to be commanded by the proposed Right Bank Canal (probably over 350 miles in length) is a million acres. To supply water for it, four tank sites have been examined, the two new ones dealt with in the past year being directly above and below Lake Whiting. The latter will, if constructed, have a high dam at Vir on the site of the existing pick-up weir for the Left Bank Canal. Further detailed surveys were made for the first 100 miles of the Right Bank Canal, and the preliminary surveys for the extension reached the 250th mile on the boundary of the Bijápur District. It will be continued through the Indi and Sindgi táluks of Bijápur (passing close to the Sangogi tank site) until it reaches the Nizám's boundary. All the proposed tanks lie in the Bhor State ; there is no possibility of obtaining any useful storage outside the State boundaries.

Gokák Survey.

The Gokák Canal Extension Survey is the next largest scheme. It will command just under 500,000 acres, nearly half of which is in Native States. With the exception of a third tank site (at Ajra on the Harankashi) all the field work for this project is completed, and the designs and estimates will be very shortly submitted to Government. During the past year the Hadlag tank site has been investigated, and the whole canal with its branches has been re-surveyed on a higher and more favourable alignment. The total length is now 80 miles of main canal and 100 miles of branches, exclusive of the distributary channels.

The first stage of this project is to consist of one tank and 40 miles of canal up to the Mudhol boundary, commanding 90,000 acres. The complete scheme will require three tanks, two of which are in Native States and the third will submerge an exceptionally large area of excellent cultivated land, besides many villages.

Krishna Survey.

As anticipated, the construction of a large Krishna Left Bank Canal to irrigate lands in Athni (Belgaum) and Bijápur, Bágewádi and Muddebihal tálukas is impracticable. A line has been surveyed in extension of the existing short canal. It runs 20 miles through Sátára up to the Yerla River, 20 miles through Sángli and Miraj States, 100 miles through Athni, 40 miles through the Aundh State, and finally 120 miles through Bijápur, a total of nearly 300 miles up to the Nizam's boundary at a fall of 8 inches per mile. The high ground in Athni (Belgaum) and Bijápur extends right up to the Krishna river. The command is very small, because the canal line is never far from the river banks. A short extension of 20 to 40 miles may prove very profitable, as the land is very rich, and it all lies close to the S. M. Railway.

Godaveri Survey.

The Godáveri Right Bank Canal Survey was completed up to the 100th mile. It is found, however, that the last 40 miles command land at the junction of the Pravara and the Godáveri, which can be served better by the extension of the Pravara Works. As finally aligned, the Left and Right Bank Godáveri Canals, with an aggregate length of 110 miles, will command 240,000 acres.

As regards storage tanks, two sites were examined on the Unanda and four on the Kadva in the north of the Násik District. They are very unfavourable. Some of the trial borings revealed great depths of soil overlying the rock. The deepest bore hole showed 100 feet of soil without striking rock, the point reached being actually 60 feet below the rock exposed in the present river bed.

To the south of Násik the investigations were completed for one dam on the Dharna river, two on the Aundh nála, and one on the Karwa nála. The foundations for these dams are not unfavourable. The last named tank is intended for the projected Right Bank Dharna Canal, the preliminary surveys for which show that it will command about 80,000 acres in the Niphád and Sinnar tálukas, where the effects of drought are frequently felt. The designs and estimates for the Godáveri Project are now being prepared.

Ghát Tank Survey.

The Ghát Tank Survey now includes two distinct groups of projects, *viz.*, the Ghod and Kukari and the Bhima Survey.

The Sub-Engineer in charge of the first carried out preliminary surveys for a Right Bank Ghod Canal, running past Sirur, a canal between the two rivers, a low level Left Bank Kukari Canal, which proved unsuitable, and finally a high level Left Bank Canal to ascertain whether water could be discharged into the famine tank at Visápur. Unfortunately this tank was found to be a little too high.

The project was then handed over to an Assistant Engineer, and he has investigated three sites for dams on the Ghod, two on the Kukari, and one on the Mina, which lies between the two others. Some of the sites are favourable.

For the Bhima Survey the Bhima and Indrayani valleys were examined from Tulapur westwards and two suitable dam sites were investigated. A site on the Bhama between the two was also selected. The position of Alandi, a popular place of pilgrimage on the Indrayani, prevents the construction of a dam at the Tulapur gorge. A pick-up weir was proposed for this place, and preliminary surveys were made for a Right and Left Bank Canal line. The former can, with a small cut, be made to pass into the Mutha-Mula valley and has a total command of 34,000 acres. A high Left Bank Canal is to be run from the Bhima tank site. It will probably command 90,000 acres.

Mula Survey.

Mr. Benson, Executive Engineer, Ahmednagar, is still carrying out surveys for the Mula River project. The Right Bank Canal has a very favourable alignment and exceptionally good command in Nevása and Shewgaon tálukas of Nagar. One tank site has been examined on the Mula River and is favourable, but the pick-up weir near Ráhuri presents very great difficulties due to the depth of the foundations. This difficulty about foundations has been the cause in previous years for shelving all the suggested tank projects on the Mula River. It is, however, not insuperable.

Rain and River Gauges.

The automatic rain gauge has not been a success. The ink does not flow, and the spring is too weak to work a pencil effectively. The clock-work too is apt to get out of order, and cannot be repaired in out of the way places.

Before the monsoon of 1903, the following rain-gauge stations were added :—

At	District.
(1) Ambewadi, Dharna Valley,	Násik.
(2) Ghatghar, Pravara Valley,	Nagar.

These two are not far apart, but are north and south of the range containing Khalsabai, and serve to show the difference of rainfall due to this high range.

The new river gauges were for the Ghát area from 1st June to 31st December.

District.	Project.	River.	Site.
Násik ...	Godáveri ...	Unanda ...	Wajarkhed.
Do. ...	Do. ...	Dharna ...	Nandgaon.
Poona ...	Ghat Tanks ...	Kukari ...	Shirapur.*
Belgaum ...	Gokák ...	Ghatprabha ...	Hadlag.

* This is maintained throughout the year.

Establishment.

The superior establishment remained the same throughout the year, excepting the departure on furlough of one permanent and the resignation of one temporary Assistant Engineer, but there were many changes among the subordinates. The best men have been retained. The strength in March 1904 was:—

Engineers Permanent.

1 Superintending Engineer.
2 Executive Engineers.
1 Assistant Engineer.

Engineers Temporary.

2 Assistant Engineers on covenant.
3 Assistant Engineers appointed in India.

Subordinates.

5 Sub-engineers.
8 Upper Subordinates, Surveyors.
33 Lower Subordinates, Surveyors.

The total expenditure for this second year of the Special Duty Surveys was :—

Establishment	...	...	...	...	Rs.	1,57,238
Works	...	...	...	...	„	49,837
Tools and Plant	...	...	...	...	„	20,231
				Total	... Rs.	2,27,306

SIND.

Character of the Inundation.

The inundation of 1903 was distinctly good. The river was somewhat late in rising to a fair irrigating level (with the exception of 3 days in June), but when the rise came at the end of July, it was well sustained and a late rise in the latter half of September was extremely beneficial, not only for late sown kharif crops, but especially for rabi cultivation.

The fair irrigating level of 13 feet at Bukkur was registered from June 25th to 27th, from July 23rd to September 3rd, and finally from September 14th to 21st, the total number of days during the season being 54.

The fair irrigating level of 17 feet on the Kotri Gauge was registered from August 3rd to September 7th and again from September 17th to 24th, the total number of days during the season being 42.

The inundation was the best since 1897, with the exception of 1900, when the fair irrigating level was registered 55 and 66 days at Bukkur and Kotri respectively.

The highest levels reached during the year were 17·1 on the Bukkur Gauge and 19·7 on the Kotri Gauge on August 22nd and 27th respectively. This is the third highest reading recorded on the Bukkur Gauge since 1848, the highest on record being 17·9 in 1897, and the next highest 17·6 in 1882.

Indus Right Bank Division.

Desert Canal.

The working of the Desert Canal during the year under report, the first after the completion of its remodelling, was very satisfactory excepting as regards the supply to the tail of the canal. This has since been remedied by increasing the waterway of the two fall regulators in miles 19 and 44. The canal was opened on the 5th June 1903 and was not closed for repairs till the 4th February 1904, and even then it had not ceased to flow.

Very large areas were again cultivated on the Uch Rájwah in Khelat, most of which is virgin soil, but the large revenue from these lands can hardly be maintained at its present figure as the Zamindárs, taking advantage of the good supply, cultivate the whole of their holdings.

Unharwah.

The supply throughout the Unharwah system was excellent.

Begári Canal.

The survey of the district was completed in view of the proposed remodelling of the Begári Canal system the project for which is in hand. The canal was opened on the 20th May and closed for repairs on the 21st December 1903. The supply was good. The Eden and Sirwah, the tail distributaries, however, suffered in consequence of large quantities of water being drawn off in the central portion of the main canal for rice irrigation but they had a very fair rabi supply and so did fairly well on the whole.

On all the canals in the Begári District the sesamum crop was destroyed by boring insects and the millet crop in the eastern part of the district was much damaged by locusts.

Mahiwah.

The expenditure on the Mahiwah project to the end of the year was Rs. 8,79,675 against the estimated amount of Rs. 7,64,749 and a revised estimate is under preparation.

The expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 1,21,223 and was incurred chiefly on masonry works and distributaries.

This canal system has now been in operation three years and during the period has irrigated 76,165 acres and earned a revenue of Rs. 2,08,731, which is about double of what was anticipated.

To ensure a more satisfactory supply to the canals in the Ubauro and Mirpur Tálukas improvements were made to the Gudu Dhand at a cost of Rs. 5,027.

Sukkur Canal. The Rahuja Head of the Sukkur Canal was opened on the 11th June, but as the river fell at the beginning of July, the old Head was opened to supplement it and remained open practically the whole of the kharif season, the result being that the canal worked satisfactorily. The rabi crops were on the whole excellent.

Ghar Canal. The Ghar Canal was opened on the 15th May and its supply was supplemented by that of the Fordwah from the 8th June. The canal worked well. Active erosion at the mouth of the canal carried away 600 feet of the canal and the Regulator of the Nasrat Canal which belongs to the Ghar system.

Sattah Canal. The project for the improvement of the Sattah Canal was started in December 1903, and up to 31st March 1904, Rs. 9,065 were spent on earthwork and Rs. 14,985 on the collection of materials. The work, inclusive of a new cut from the Indus, is expected to be completed in August 1904 at a total expenditure on Works of Rs. 1,29,232.

Sind Canal. The work of widening the 1899 feeder to the Sind Canal was completed at a cost of Rs. 9,140 and has proved very beneficial.

Western Nara. The work commenced last year on the new mouth to the Western Nara near the village of Akil was completed, together with a Head Regulator, and opened on the 1st July 1903. It proved successful and continued to flow until 1st January 1904. The old Nara mouth was opened on the 29th May and ceased to flow on the 12th October owing to heavy deposition of silt.

Western Nara Canals. The new mouth to the Wahur, an old River Channel, commenced last year to remedy the silting of the mouth of the Pritchard Canal, was completed and has so far proved successful. To remedy the silting of the Nara above the junction with the Pritchard Canal in consequence of the higher level and greater velocity of water in the latter, the Pritchard Canal was widened below the Stop-Gate Regulator so that its water might reach the Nara in undiminished volume, at a lower level and velocity, the result being that the former evil has been mitigated to a considerable degree. It was found necessary to make a new mouth for the Marvi Wah as the Wahur has silted up opposite the point whence the old mouth took off. A cut was also made to the Wahur about half a mile higher up stream and proved successful.

Pinyari. The Pinyari flowed from the 15th May to the 17th October. The construction of a Regulating Bridge across the canal to raise the level of supply to the Mahmudwah, the largest and best situated of the distributaries, was in progress.

Kashmor Bund. Much trouble was experienced with leaks in miles 6 to 8 of the Kashmor Bund and unfortunately a breach occurred on the 2nd August in the 7th mile. It was, however, successfully closed on the 8th August. Little damage was done, but extensive special repairs due to the leaks and the breach were found necessary. A loop is being formed behind the weak portion of the bund.

Shikárpur Bunds. The new loop in 12th and 13th miles of the Sukkur-Begári Bund was completed.

Nara Bunds. The Western Nara Bunds stood well with the exception of the New Loop of 1902 to the Lashari Bund which gave much trouble on account of numerous leaks.

Karáchi Bunds. 12 miles of bunds were raised and strengthened. A breach occurred on the 27th August 1903 in the 31st mile of the Mulchand-Shahbandar Bund and was closed on the 4th September. A few leaks occurred in the Panah-Baghar Bund, but they were successfully closed.

Surveys. The field work of the Trans-Frontier Cadastral Survey of lands in Khelat was completed during the year and about 139,393 acres were surveyed, making a total area of 700 square miles. The Contour Survey of the Begári Canals District was finished during the year and has already proved of the greatest use. As the Northern Tálukas of Ubauro and Mirpur have suffered greatly by the cessation of the floods which used to inundate them, surveys for the improvement of the irrigation of the Rohri Sub-Division, in order to bring it into line with the rest of Sind as to irrigation, were commenced. A survey was made and a project prepared for remodelling the Ghar Canal, the field work of which was completed, and the preparation of plans is in hand. The plotting of the Contour Survey of the Western Nara District was completed at a total cost of Rs. 18,509. The field work of the survey in connection with the remodelling of the Western Nara was in progress, as also the re-levelling of the alignment of the proposed Dadu-Sehwan Canal, 60 miles in length, prior to its being permanently demarcated with bench mark stones. In consequence of frequent complaints from the zamindars of the Ghorábári, Tatta and Mirpur Sakro Tálukas of deficiency of water-supply from the Kalri and Baghar Canals, surveys were made to ascertain how they could be improved.

Tree planting was carried on along the canals in the Begári Canals District with considerable success. The same operation was conducted on the banks of the Fordwah in the Ghar Canals District, trees being planted also in the nurseries of the Gardens at Lárkhána and Naodero. The progress as yet is small but considerable improvement is hoped for next year. Plantations.

Indus Left Bank Division.

The 12th mile gauge on the Nara Supply Channel read over 22 feet continuously from June 12th to September 26th. The maximum depth available and admitted was 24 feet against 23·2 in the previous year. No floods entered the Supply Channel during the season. Nara Supply Channel.

The supply in the Eastern Nara was good but the water level did not rise to its greatest level till about the end of September, which was rather late for the kharif season, so that there may be a slight decrease of cultivation compared with last year. An increase over last year's area is expected in rabi. The Eastern Nara.

The expenditure during the year on the Makhi Dhand works, which include the Rata Bund Extension, a new mouth and Head Regulator to the Mithrao, and two sluices in the Rata Bund, was Rs. 57,000. These works will be completed by March 1905, and it is anticipated that an increase of 10,000 acres of cultivation will result from them, in addition to the canals getting more silty water owing to the Nara supply being confined to its channel, instead of spreading over the Makhi Dhand. Mithrao Canal.

The canal and its distributaries worked very well. The areas under both kharif and rabi are expected to be greater than last year.

The maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 23,959 against Rs. 29,490 during the previous year.

The Heran Canal was open throughout the year, and worked satisfactorily as usual. Heran Canal.

The work of deepening the Khipra Canal, which was commenced last year, was completed and as a result the canal carried a greater supply than in previous year. Khipra Canal.

The kharif and rabi areas are expected to be about 2,300 and 1,400 acres as compared with 853 and 1,132 in the previous year.

The Thar Canal as usual worked well. Thar Canal.

The capital outlay of the year on the Hiral Canal was Rs. 47,738. The works, which were described in the last year's report, were completed, and the excavation of water courses was commenced. The canal was formally opened on May 21st and water was admitted for irrigation on June 10th into the water courses which were ready. This canal takes off from the Eastern Nara above the Thar weir, just opposite the head of the Thar Canal and it is worked on the same method as the Jámrao. Hiral Canal.

It worked most satisfactorily and far beyond expectations. A total area of cultivation of 14,942 acres was expected after the second year of working but it is now anticipated that in the first year the actual area cultivated under kharif and rabi will exceed 20,000 acres.

An area of 14,373 acres was allotted during the year, of which the bulk was granted to people from the desert and to junior Talpurs of the Mirpur Family.

The total expenditure incurred during the year on the Jámrao Canal was Rs. 1,36,987, of which Rs. 53,861 was on 'Works'. The principal items were: provision of iron shutters for the upper weir, two new regulators in the Old Dimwah, three inspection bungalows, combined regulators and bridges, road bridges and drainage works. The masonry outlets at the heads of the main water courses and the excavation of the remaining water courses were completed in the Southern District. The excavation of water courses was also in progress in the Northern District in the Dimwah villages and the work of establishing plantations is in progress. The conditions at the Head Works are most satisfactory as the long approach channel has now fully developed and appears to be permanent. Jámrao Canal.

The expenditure on extensions and improvements was Rs. 921, and the maintenance charges including Work and Revenue Establishment and the maintenance of the telegraph line amounted to Rs. 1,37,111 against Rs. 1,54,794 last year.

No new Colonists were imported from the Punjáb, but 6,077 acres were given to relatives of Panjábi Colonists, who had come to Sind in the hope of getting land.

Allotments were granted during the year to the extent of 25,227 acres.

The expenditure of the year on the Dad Canal was Rs. 78,668 ('Works' only) mainly on Regulators and Buildings. The 8th and 32nd mile Regulators and other works commenced last year were completed. Shelters were constructed for the use of subordinates and members of the petty establishment, baulk sheds were built and several bridges were Dad Canal.

nearly finished. Notwithstanding the silting up of the mouth of the feeder Dhand, the canal and its branches worked satisfactorily and the crops did not suffer any damage except in a few places where they were attacked by locusts.

Nasrat Canal.

An area of 1,848 acres was allotted during the year, of which 937 acres was given to local people, 539 to the Forest Department, and 372 to other Colonists and persons recommended for special grants.

The capital outlay of the year on the Nasrat Canal was Rs. 2,97,497 on 'Works'. The masonry works in progress last year were completed and amongst the new works commenced were two Fall Regulators, six combined bridges and regulators (four of which were on the main canal), two regulators on branches, and four Inspection Chowkis. The work of widening the main canal, which involved very heavy earthwork, was completed.

The outlay on water courses on behalf of the Colonization Officer and recoverable from Colonists and other grantees was Rs. 1,13,540. Distributaries designed to give independent supplies to sixteen villages situated in the desert, and which are dependent on the Nasrat, were commenced and nearly finished. The large and extended Nasrat Canal was opened for irrigation on May 26th. The length of the original canal with its branches was only 64 miles while the length of the extended canal and its branches omitting about 20 distributaries, which are not completed yet, is 165 miles. The greatest depth of water admitted into the canal was about 3 feet more than the designed full supply depth of 10·5 feet. The new banks stood well, and the canal and branches worked very satisfactorily. The maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 48,183.

Allotments were granted during the year to the extent of 40,500 acres.

Fuleli Canal.

The capital outlay of the year on the Fuleli Canal was Rs. 25,343 ('Works' only), of which Rs. 1,886 were spent on the completion of distributaries for rabi cultivation from the Escape. The contour survey in Hyderabad, Guni and Dero Mohbat Tálukas was completed and that in the Bago Tando and Badin Tálukas was in progress, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 7,640. The improvements to the Pandhiwah commenced last year were in progress, the expenditure being Rs. 6,603. Rupees 6,017 were spent on excavating an Escape to the Gajawah with the object of utilizing the water of the Gajawah, the lower portion of which is now fed by the Hasanali Canal. The excavation of Distributaries from the Nasirwah Diversion was commenced, the expenditure being Rs. 3,197. The Fuleli and its branches were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,25,038 including Work and Navigation Establishment. 1,038 boats plied during the year as against 910 last year. The quantity of produce carried was about 600,000 maunds as compared with 500,000 during the previous year. The receipts from fees on boats and steam launches amounted to Rs. 8,433, and Rs. 2,104 was expended for the benefit of Navigation.

Hasanali Canal.

The Hasanali Canal which was in progress during the previous year was nearly completed and the capital outlay during the year was Rs. 86,903. The canal and its distributaries worked well but owing to the work not being completed before the opening of the canal, and to the banks being new, the full supply could not be admitted. An estimate for enlarging the Head Regulator, which is not wide enough, has been sanctioned by Government and the work will be carried out before the inundation of 1904. The canal was maintained in good order at a cost of Rs. 3,983. This being the first year of the opening of the canal the zemindars were not prepared for the increased supply but in future years a large increase of cultivation is anticipated. The result of this work, which will cost when completed about Rs. 2,00,000, is that a discharge of over 400 cubic feet per second direct from the Indus has been provided in the Fuleli Canals District, so that the cost per cusec is only Rs. 500.

Alibahar.

The Alibahar Canal and its six branches received a good supply and worked well. It was maintained at a total cost of Rs. 4,940.

Great Marak.

On the Great Marak Canal, certain extensions and improvements at a cost of Rs. 6,165 were carried out. A second class chowkey, a regulator at the head of a branch canal, and some other small works were completed. The canal and its branches, which worked well, were maintained at an expenditure of Rs. 23,889 including 'Work Establishment'.

Sarfráz Wah.

The expenditure on maintenance including 'Work Establishment' of the Sarfraz Wah amounted to Rs. 10,464 against Rs. 13,012 in the previous year. The canal with its branches worked well but as its mouth silts considerably and causes it to cease flowing early it is proposed to cut a new mouth.

Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.

The principal canals under this head are the Naulakhi, Mehrab, Dambro, Ren, Gharo Mahmudo and Nasir. All the canals worked well and the cultivation is likely to show a large increase over that of last year. Several works of Extensions and Improvements were carried out at a cost of Rs. 13,582, and the cost of maintenance including 'Work Establishment' amounted to Rs. 1,49,013.

Surveys.

The contour survey of the Central Hyderabad Canals District, estimated to cost Rs. 20,332, was commenced and the field work nearly completed at a cost of Rs. 10,794. Lines of levels 2 miles apart were run from West to East and 5 miles apart from North to South. The contour survey of part of the Jati Táluka in Karáchi District was commenced

and nearly completed, the expenditure being Rs. 6,166 against the estimate of Rs. 6,617. The object of this survey is to determine the area of land available for cultivation in the event of a water-supply being provided for it. The Eastern Delta Canal Survey was also commenced, the expenditure being Rs. 503 against an estimate of Rs. 4,278.

Bunds.

The river bunds in this Division were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 3,010. The most important are the Hajipur and Jamshora Bunds in the Fuleli Canals, and the Naulakhi-Bhorti Bund in the Northern Hyderabad Canals District. During the inundation water stood against the whole length of the Hajipur Bund but no breaches occurred though in places the bund was slightly damaged by wave wash. Slow but steady erosion has been in progress in front of this bund near the Hasanali Canal mouth but it has not been sufficient to necessitate the construction of any reserve loops.

As it was evident that the Naulakhi-Bhorti Bund must be cut by erosion a loop from mile 1 to mile 4 was commenced last year, and completed this year at a cost of Rs. 35,058 of which Rs. 20,073 was spent during the year. As the erosion continued downstream, it was necessary to extend this loop to mile 6, and Rs. 4,645 was expended on this work during the year.

Indus River Commission.

Surveys.

No hydrographic surveys were made during the year, but river bank and current surveys were carried out in various portions of the river for a length aggregating 230 miles in all.

Discharge of the Indus.

Discharges were measured regularly at Sukkur and Kotri throughout the inundation season and at intervals during the cold weather, the velocities being taken by means of Haskell Current Meters.

The maximum discharge measured at Sukkur was 592,147 cubic feet per second on 18th September 1903 when the mean velocity was 9·18 feet per second and the Bukkur Gauge read 15·3 feet. The maximum gauge reading for the season at Bukkur was 17·1 on the 22nd August 1903. It was unfortunately impossible to measure the discharge on that day owing to the launch being temporarily out of order, but it is estimated at 800,000 cusecs.

The minimum discharge measured at Sukkur was 31,360 cubic feet per second on the 1st April 1903 when the mean velocity was 2·85 feet per second and the Bukkur gauge read 3·4 feet. The lowest reading for the year was 1·5 on the 1st March 1904.

A comparison of the discharges of the river at Sukkur during the months June to September in 1901 to 1903 is given below :—

Month.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Cusecs.	Cusecs.	Cusecs.
June	5,541,000	6,383,000	5,473,000
July	8,324,000	7,452,000	8,318,000
August	15,394,000	6,466,000	18,386,000
September	7,605,000	5,009,000	9,319,000
Total ...	36,864,000	25,310,000	41,496,000
Average daily discharge ...	302,164	207,459	340,131
Maximum discharge ...	699,184	475,225	592,147
Minimum „ ...	127,985	86,000	148,831
Minimum discharge of the year ...	63,219	18,947	31,360

Silt experiments.

The minimum quantity of silt in suspension observed at Sukkur was 250 grains per cubic foot of water at 0·33 foot below surface on 23rd April 1903, the minimum observed in the previous year being 150 grains.

The maximum quantity observed was 2,445 grains per cubic foot on the 27th July 1903 at 16 feet below surface, the maximum observed in the previous year being 2,647 grains.

Extensions and improvements.

The estimates sanctioned under 'Extensions and Improvements' were :—

	Rs.
Begári Canals—	
Widening channel of the Sind Dhoro above its Head Regulator in mile 29-4 of the Kashmor Bund	861
Shikárpur Canals—	
Constructing double groynes, Tulsi Dhand Bund ...	2,378
Ghár Canals—	
Extensions and improvements to Mithu and Phulu Bund	1,583

	Rs.
Western Nara—	
Raising and strengthening the Magsi Bund from mile 42-2 to 44-5	9,129
Removing part of rear of the existing Bund (Nangeshah) at mile 23, village Karani	1,434
Raising and strengthening the Nangeshah Bund, mile 18-1 to 23	6,637
Karáchi Canals—	
Raising and strengthening the Mulchand-Shahbandar Bund, Rajwah to Gungri	9,148
Raising and strengthening the Panah-Baghar Bund, from miles 5 to 7	7,978
Raising and strengthening the Kokawari Bund ...	7,889
Do. do. Mulchand-Shahbandar Bund, from mile 0 to 3-2	8,436
Raising and strengthening Baghar-Uchito Bund, miles 12-7 to 15-6	10,000
Raising and strengthening Mulchand-Shahbandar Bund, Rajwah to Gungri, from miles 31-1 to 32-0 and 38-1 to 39-1	7,647

These and some other small works of the nature of Extensions and Improvements were in progress during the year.

Special repairs.

The following estimates were sanctioned for loops under the head 'Special Repairs':—

	Rs.
Karáchi Canals—	
Constructing a loop at mile 18-0 of the Baghar-Uchito Bund	370
Northern Hyderabad Canals—	
Constructing a loop behind the Naulakhi-Bhorti Bund in miles 4-2 to 6-2	21,660

Maintenance and repairs.

The total expenditure under this head on the several works under the direct control of the Commission was Rs. 3,252, of which Rs. 1,170 was expended on River Gauge Establishment at Sukkur, Kotri and Jerruck.

Deposits—Excluded Local Fund repairs.

The usual snagging tour was undertaken by the Deputy Conservator and Registrar and in all 27 snags and some small trees were removed, the greater number being removed by capstan and engine power and the rest blown up by dynamite. Several snags were removed from the mouth of the Uchito. This continued removal of the snags and obstructions from the bar at the mouth of this branch is effecting a gradual, though certain, improvement in the flow of a channel which, without such care, would possibly have nearly silted up; already indeed cultivators have suffered considerably from shortness of the supply carried by this channel.

The following is a summary of the expenditure of the year:—

	Rs.
Works	18,266
Repairs	3,252
Establishment	25,604
Tools and Plant	2,692
	49,814
Deposits—Contribution, Excluded Local Fund—	
	Rs.
Repairs	2,245
Establishment	9,600
	11,845
Total ...	61,659

General Remarks.

Though the river was fairly high, there was no great erosion necessitating the construction of large loops and there was but little difficulty in maintaining the existing canal mouths. The grants made during the year were, therefore, chiefly for the purpose of bringing existing Bunds to the full height and section required.

The usual surveys of reaches of the river, where erosion is active, were made; the study of these surveys has, in several cases, led to the abandonment or postponement of loop bunds which had been proposed, and in this way Government have been saved from very considerable expenditure.

This report would be incomplete without an expression of deep regret for the death of the late Secretary to the Commission, Mr. E. F. Dawson, which occurred in April last. To Mr. Dawson is due the present organisation of the Commission.

10—Railways.

Length of lines open.

1. The total length of railway open to traffic under the administrative control of the Government of Bombay was 7,749·98 miles. Of this, 73·63 miles were opened during the year, the new lines being the Ait-Kunch Branch (Indian Midland Railway—broad gauge, 8·50 miles); the Baroda-Godhra Chord (B. B. & C. I. Railway—broad gauge, 44 miles); the Kalol-Kadi Section of His Highness the Gáekwár's Vijápur-Kalol-Kadi Railway (—metre gauge, 11·93 miles); the Padra-Mobha Section of His Highness the Gáekwár's Dabhoi Railway (—2′ 6″ gauge, 9·20 miles). The Gwalior-Jaora Section (2′ 0″ gauge, 31·34 miles) of the Gwalior Light Railway * was also opened during the year.

Lines under construction.

2. On the lines previously sanctioned for construction, work was in progress on the Agra-Delhi Chord (5′ 6″ gauge—120·10 miles) which when built is to be worked by the G. I. P. Railway Company under the control of this Government, the Mobha-Kanjat Extension of His Highness the Gáekwár's Dabhoi Railway (2′ 6″ gauge—6·5 miles), and on the Bellary-Rayadrug (metre gauge—33 miles) and Hospet-Kottur (metre gauge—38 miles) branches of the Southern Mahratta Railway System—two Famine Feeder lines in the Madras Presidency.

During the official year also, construction work was put in hand on (i) the Warora-Bellarpur Extension (G. I. P. Railway), broad gauge—37·90 miles, (ii) the Rewari-Phulera Chord (Rájputána-Málwa Railway), metre gauge—133·32 miles, and (iii) the Cutch Railway (Anjár to Tuna), 2′ 6″ gauge—11·86 miles, which is being built by the Cutch Darbár. The Gwálior Darbár also commenced the construction of the Jaora-Subalgarh-Sheopur * Extension of their 2′ 0″ gauge system—91·52 miles, an extension which when built will, along with the rest of that 2′ 0″ gauge system, be worked by the G. I. P. Railway Company.

Surveys.

3. The survey of 389·41 miles of railway was completed during the year.

Chief events.

4. An agreement was entered into between the Government of His Highness the Gáekwár and the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company for the working by the latter of the Vijápur-Kálol-Kadi Railway.

Sanction was accorded to the Khándwa-Itársi Section (110 miles) of the G. I. P. Railway being doubled and the work is in progress. The pressure of traffic over this section has been more or less felt every busy season.

The work of converting the Morvi Railway from 2′ 6″ gauge to the 3′ 3⅜″ gauge was in progress.

An order authorising the construction and maintenance of a line of Tramway between Neral Station on the G. I. P. Railway and the Hill Station of Mátherán was issued in July 1904.

Continued success has attended the efforts of the Southern Mahratta Railway Administration to make the port of Mormugao an outlet for direct export to Europe. This Port now ranks as the third in importance for the export of the produce of the Presidency.

5. The following table shows the Capital and Revenue transactions of the Railways under the control of the Bombay Government for the calendar year 1903 :—

CAPITAL AND REVENUE TRANSACTIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1903.

Railways.	Capital Transactions.			Revenue Transactions.			
	Total Capital outlay to end of December 1903 including Suspense.	Open Milleage.	Cost per mile.	Gross Earnings.	Earnings per mile per week.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Expenses to Earnings.
G. I. P. Railway undertaking and Bársi Light Railway—	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Broad Gauge—							
G. I. P. Railway	31,08,53,056	1,561·03	1,99,057	4,68,61,534	577	2,33,75,898	49·88
Indian Midland Railway	10,98,96,302	805·03	1,36,512	80,86,118	193	39,95,238	49·41
Bhopál Railway	80,32,127	57·39	1,39,957	10,09,087	338	4,96,317	49·18
Bhopál-Ujjain Railway	78,11,402	113·27	68,963	4,41,766	76	2,29,925	51·70
Bina-Baran Railway	99,62,459	145·63	68,409	3,21,555	42	1,65,985	51·61
2′ 0″ Gauge—							
Gwálior Light Railway* (open)	29,03,940	126·14	23,022	1,66,002	25	97,776	58·90
Do. (under construction) (a)	12,73,013	57·86	22,002	.....	...	.....	...
2′ 6″ Gauge—							
Bársi Light Railway	13,18,289	21·59	61,060	1,30,694	116	77,272	59·12
B. B. & C. I. Railway System—							
Broad Gauge—							
B. B. & C. I. Railway (including Baroda-Godhra Chord Railway)	(b) 12,45,42,244	504·35	2,46,941	1,69,63,028	704·82	84,67,827	49·92
Nágda-Ujjain Railway	22,41,231	34·32	65,304	1,20,952	67·77	58,002	47·95
Godhra-Ratlám-Nágda Railway	1,78,01,954	141·14	1,26,129	Included under Rájputána-Málwa Railway.			
Gáekwár's Pethád Railway	11,48,092	21·50	53,400	98,451	88·06	48,161	48·92
Tárápur-Cambay Railway	7,49,676	10 92	68,652	25,151	44·29	12,349	49·10
Tápti Valley Railway	1,30,02,400	155·48	83,627	8,62,758	106·71	3,79,611	44·00

* The Gwalior Light Railway is not under the administrative control of this Government, only the Traffic Working and Audit has been entrusted to the G. I. P. Railway Company.

(a) Under construction.

(b) Includes expenditure (Rs. 8,08,405) on Patri Branch.

Railways.	Capital Transactions.			Revenue Transactions.			
	Total Capital outlay to end of December 1902 including Suspense.	Open Mileage.	Cost per mile.	Gross Earnings.	Earnings per mile per week.	Working Expenses.	Percentage of Expenses to Earnings.
B. B. & C. I. Railway System—*continued.*	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Metre Gauge—							
Rájputána-Málwa Railway	13,95,05,312	1,649·30	84,584	2,27,25,663	244·92	1,13,04,772	49·74
Gáekwár's Mehsána Railway	33,65,906	92·63	36,337	3,47,083	72·06	1,69,616	48·87
Pálanpur-Deesa Railway	4,22,069	17·28	24,425	29,735	33·10	14,413	48·47
Ahmedabad-Parántij Railway	19,38,869	54·70	35,360	1,50,112	52·77	66,049	43·94
Ahmedabad-Dholka Railway	10,02,172	33·50	29,916	64,261	36·88	28,275	44·00
Vijápur-Kálol-Kadi Railway	11,84,246	41·37	28,625	56,916	26·96	28,134	49·43
Rewári-Phulera Chord Railway (a) ...	5,77,452	133·32	...	.....	...	.....	...
2' 6" Gauge—							
Gáekwár's Dabhoi Railway	22,92,078	88·00	26,046	2,60,550	57·00	2,53,084	97·13
Do. do. (a)...	51,716	6·49	...	.....	...	.....	...
Rájpipla State Railway	13,04,231	37·37	34,902	44,830	23·06	34,156	76·19
Southern Mahratta Railway System—							
Metre Gauge—							
Southern Mahratta Railway	9,88,51,177	1,042·04	94,863	66,72,302	122·78	41,21,580	61·77
Mysore State Railway	1,62,34,903	296·22	54,807	15,35,270	99·67	9,52,971	62·07
Guntákal-Mysore Frontier Railway ...	59,07,191	119·50	49,433	4,96,481	79·90	2,99,406	60·31
Nanjangad Railway	6,56,462	15·80	41,548	31,923	38·85	19,236	60·26
Hindupur Railway	24,07,206	51·35	46,631	2,42,695	90·89	1,46,536	60·38
Birur-Shimoga Railway	24,07,802	37·02	63,497	61,520	31·20	37,314	60·65
Kolhápur State Railway	23,26,188	29·27	79,478	1,21,957	80·12	73,904	60·59
West of India Portuguese Railway	(c) 1,37,76,494	51·11	2,69,546	(d) 3,96,235	149·09	2,45,123	61·86
Madras Famine Feeder Lines—							
Bellary-Rayadrug Railway (a)	1,19,958	.....	3,605	.....	...	.....	...
Hospet-Kottur Railway (a)	1,37,820	.....	3,125	.....	...	.....	...
Bhávnagar-Gondal-Junágad-Porbandar (including Jetalsar-Rájkot, Jámnagar and Dhrángadhra Railways) (metre-gauge)	2,26,76,948	(e) 455·45	50,812	19,53,856	82·50	9,82,121	50·27
Morvi Railway (2' 6" gauge)	24,56,766	91·36	26,036	2,98,066	60·98	1,53,299	51·43

(a) Under construction.

(c) Excludes Rs. 25,32,299 outlay on Mormugao Harbour Works.

(d) The receipts and charges on account of Harbour for the year 1903 are as under :—

Receipts	Rs.	1,28,465
Charges	,,	65,704
Percentage of charges to receipts ...	,,	51·15.

(e) Excludes 9·16 miles representing Dock Estate and Quarry Lines.

11—Tramways.

Bombay City, Karáchi and Násik were the only places with tramway services. There were no alterations in or additions to the lines during the year. The Bombay Company carried 23,504,571 passengers during the year against 22,748,365 in the previous year. Similarly the number of passengers carried by the Karáchi and Násik tramways increased during the year to 2,288,127 and 155,165 respectively.

CHAPTER V.—FINANCIAL REVIEW.

1. Financial Review, 1903-1904.

I.—General Remarks.

In this review the receipts and expenditure of the Civil Department in the Bombay Presidency are compared with those of the previous year. The figures for 1902-1903 do not entirely agree with those in the financial review for that year owing to certain corrective entries having been made after the submission of that review. The figures for 1903-1904 are similarly subject to alteration.

II.—Gross Revenue.

The gross Imperial, Provincial and Local receipts for the year 1903-1904 amounted to Rs. 17,57,46,516 as compared with Rs. 14,02,96,252 in the preceding year. There was an increase of Rs. 3,67,20,207 in Imperial receipts and a decrease of Rs. 14,71,625 in Provincial receipts. The chief variations are explained below.

III.—Imperial Civil Revenue.

1. There was an increase of Rs. 1,05,11,283 in Land Revenue owing to large remissions having been granted by the Government of India in the previous year and to the collections due in the closing month of that year having been postponed to the year under review. Land Revenue.

2. The opium receipts increased by Rs. 31,56,892 owing to better crops in Málwa and increased demand in China. Opium.

3. The reduction of the rate of duty caused a falling off of Rs. 54,48,350 in the salt revenue. Salt.

4. Sales of stamps improved by Rs. 38,689, the increase being chiefly under "General Stamps" and "Miscellaneous." Stamps.

5. There was an increase of Rs. 8,59,464 in Excise revenue which is explained by the increased material prosperity of the people which improved the sale of opium and liquor, and also by the facts that during the year the fees for one year and 8 months were received and that the separate shop system was introduced in some districts. Excise.

6. The increase in Customs of Rs. 93,214 was due to the improvement in excise duty on cotton manufactures. Customs.

7. Under Assessed Taxes there is a falling off of Rs. 1,41,475, due mainly to the exemption from the tax of incomes below Rs. 1,000 per annum. Assessed Taxes.

8. Under Forests there is an improvement of Rs. 2,11,191 which is attributed to the better demand for timber and the large supplies available owing to the cyclone in Thána. Forests.

9. The increase under Interest of Rs. 6,40,570 was mainly due to an advance payment by the Bombay Port Trust of interest due in 1904-05. Interest.

10. The revenue from the Mint shows an increase of Rs. 2,67,30,574. It is due to the profit on the large coinage of silver on Government account. It is, however, counterbalanced by a similar increase in expenditure. Mint.

11. An increase of Rs. 21,007 under Miscellaneous is due to certain recoveries on account of works executed by famine labour for railway companies. Miscellaneous.

12. The other heads of Imperial Revenue, such as Registration and Tribute, show small increases which do not call for an explanation. Other.

IV.—Provincial Civil Revenue.

1. There was a falling off of Rs. 25,35,910 in Land Revenue which was due to smaller contributions from Imperial Revenues. Land Revenue.

2. The increases under Stamps (Rs. 1,16,068), Excise (Rs. 2,86,488), and Forest (Rs. 2,11,192), and the decrease under Assessed Taxes (Rs. 1,35,089) are due to the causes mentioned under the corresponding heads of Imperial Revenue. Stamps, Excise, Forest, Assessed Taxes.

Intrest.

3. The increase in interest of Rs. 1,89,906 is chiefly due to larger payments by cultivators.

Medical.

4. The increase of Rs. 20,720 under medical revenue was due to better attendance at the Grant Medical College.

V.—Gross Expenditure.

The gross Imperial, Provincial and Local expenditure in the Civil Department for the year under report amounted to Rs. 9,07,15,376 as compared with Rs. 7,03,33,236 in the previous year. The Imperial expenditure increased by Rs. 2,40,85,548, while the Provincial expenditure decreased by Rs. 37,71,860. The chief variations are explained below.

VI.—Imperial Civil Expenditure.

Refunds.

1. There is a decrease of Rs. 4,67,697 under Refunds, which is chiefly due to the special refunds of the difference of countervailing duties on sugar and to large payments made to the Kashmir Darbár in consequence of larger exports made to that State in the previous year.

Assignments.

2. An increase of Rs. 23,474 under Assignments is due to the payment of arrears of compensation due to the States of Phaltan and Akalkot and certain States in Rewa Kántha.

Salt.

3. The increase of Rs. 54,928 under Salt is due to higher charges for clothing, sewing and bagging, to the acquisition of certain lands from the Desai of Patri for a patrol path and to the establishment of a Customs line in Káthiáwár.

Mint.

4. There was a large increase of Rs. 2,58,18,963, which was due to the heavy rupee coinage and the transfer of the net gain to the Gold Reserve Fund.

Famine.

5. The cessation of famine caused a decrease of Rs. 16,24,274 under this head.

Other heads.

6. There were increases under Excise (Rs. 36,580), Customs (Rs. 28,393), Forest (Rs. 48,179), Interest (Rs. 35,159), Ecclesiastical (Rs. 27,752), Political (Rs. 61,738), and Miscellaneous (Rs. 61,121), and a decrease under Stationery (Rs. 27,728).

VII.—Provincial Civil Expenditure.

Assignments.

1. A decrease of Rs. 2,47,838 under Assignments was due to lapses of inams and to the change in the method of calculation in the Sukkur District by which the assessment on uncultivable charitable grants was left out of account.

Land Revenue.

2. The decrease of Rs. 1,58,700 under Land Revenue was due partly to the abolition of the Famine Establishment and partly to the heavy expenditure incurred in the construction and repair of "Chavdis" in the previous year.

General administration.

3. A decrease of Rs. 1,74,301 under General Administration was due to the fact that charges in connection with the Delhi Darbár came under this head in the previous year.

Jails.

4. There was a decrease under Jails of Rs. 1,49,964 due to a better demand for Jail manufactures in the previous year and to the inclusion in that year under this head of charges on account of the purchase of quinine.

Police.

5. The excess of Rs. 1,45,331 under Police was due to the supply of rifles to the District Police.

Medical.

6. The decrease of Rs. 4,33,512 under Medical is almost wholly due to the heavier plague charges in the previous year and to charges in connection with the supply of serum to the Punjab incurred in that year.

Superannuation.

7. The increase of Rs. 1,04,507 under the head of Superannuation was due to the ordinary normal increase in pensions and to the transfer of the Berar Pensions on the books of this Province from April 1903.

Miscellaneous.

8. The decrease under the head of Miscellaneous amounted to Rs. 25,88,467. It was due partly to the fact that in the previous year large remissions of Tagai were granted and partly to the heavy charges on account of coronation celebrations in that year.

Other heads.

9. Other heads showing increases were Forests (Rs. 48,180) and Law and Justice (Rs. 52,117), while heads showing decreases were Education (Rs. 44,021), Political (Rs. 38,995) and Stationery (Rs. 89,780).

VIII.—Debt and Remittance Account.

General.

1. Receipts and outgoings under the head of Debt and Remittance Account amounted to Rs. 95,03,60,669 and Rs. 1,03,67,71,385 respectively.

Unfunded Debt.

Deposit of Service Funds

2. The transactions recorded under the head of Deposit of Service Funds are in connection with the Bombay Uncovenanted Service Family Pension Fund. The receipts, which include the interest allowed by Government on the balance of the Fund, amounted to Rs. 2,03,998. The outgoings, which represent charges on account of pensions paid to widows and the surrender value to subscribers on the death of their wives, were Rs. 1,19,821.

Savings Bank Deposits.

3. The transactions under the head of Savings Bank Deposits are on account of the Forest, Police, and Financial Officers' Provident Fund and the Life Assurance Branch of the Bombay Uncovenanted Service Family Pension Fund. Receipts amounted to Rs. 1,18,815 and outgoings to Rs. 1,24,270.

Deposits and Advances.

Departmental and Judicial Deposits.

4. Receipts were Rs. 5,18,92,126 and outgoings Rs. 2,14,30,660. The excess in receipt was due chiefly to the adjustment of the net profits on silver coinage to the credit of the Gold Reserve Fund.

Imperial Advances.

5. Under Imperial Advances the excess in receipts (Rs. 14,54,276) over outgoings (Rs. 3,81,039) was due to large recoveries from Native States on account of loans made in previous years.

Provincial Advances

6. Under Provincial Advances receipts were Rs. 49,59,601 and outgoings Rs. 17,22,665. The excess in receipts was chiefly due to large recoveries in consequence of the improvement in the agricultural condition of the people.

Excluded Local Funds.

7. A detailed account of Excluded Local Funds will be found under the section on Local Funds.

Remittances.

Remittances.

8. Under the head of Remittances the most noticeable point is the excess of outgoings over receipts in the following heads. Under "Marine" receipts were Rs. 5,53,706 and outgoings Rs. 50,77,884, the excess being due to large expenditure on account of transports to Somaliland. Under "Military" receipts were Rs. 15,97,840 and outgoings Rs. 4,23,79,691, the excess being due to heavy expenditure. In the remittance account between England and India receipts were Rs. 6,84,35,615 and expenditure Rs. 6,94,61,660, the excess being due to gold shipped to England and an improvement in the Postal and Money order transactions.

2. Mint.

For details see tables under XV—Mint and Coinage—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

Gold bullion.

1. The value of gold bullion and coin tendered by the public in exchange for rupees amounted to Rs. 4,57,39,606 in value as compared with Rs. 3,23,23,056 in the previous year.

Silver bullion.

2. Silver bullion, consisting of London and American bar silver and Mexican Dollars received from England and purchased locally, invoiced at Rs. 5,14,60,231 was brought to account during the year. In addition to the above, silver of the invoice value of Rs. 1,10,83,741 was railed to the Calcutta Mint. The amount of uncurrent Government silver coin received for recoinage was Rs. 1,26,18,479. East India Company's coins known as Arcot Rupees of the value of Rs. 15,376 were also remitted to the Mint. The recoinage into Government rupees of the silver currencies of the Native States of Indore, Sirohi and Khairpur was carried out under arrangements similar to those previously adopted in the case of other Native States. The exchange value of the remittances of Indore, Sirohi and Khairpur coins received for conversion was Rs. 5,94,427, Rs. 6,78,755 and Rs. 1,54,255 respectively. The value of the silver bullion tendered by the Exchange Banks for coinage into British Dollars and brought to account was Rs. 56,57,561. The marked shrinkage in the tenders of bullion for this coinage is mainly attributable to the legislation in connection with the currency of the Straits Settlements. The value of British and Mexican Dollars received from the Colonial Secretary, Singapore, for recoinage into Straits Settlements Dollars and brought to account was Rs. 4,26,92,952.

Silver coinage.

3. 9,63,04,916 Rupees were struck during the year for the Government of India and for the three Native States previously referred to. The coinage of British Dollars on behalf of tenderers of silver bullion amounted to 3,955,647 pieces and that of Straits Settlements dollars on behalf of the Colonial Secretary, Singapore, to 15,009,891 pieces.

Revenue and expenditure.

4. The revenue from all sources was Rs. 3,23,37,940, which includes Rs. 3,17,31,647, being the profit on the silver purchased during the year for coinage into Government rupees. The total expenditure, including *pro formâ* charges to the amount of Rs. 3,06,689, was Rs. 14,02,456, or less by Rs. 96,285 than that of the preceding year.

3. Currency.

For details see tables under XIV—Paper Currency—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India

I—Presidency Circle.

Circulation.

1. The average monthly net circulation of currency notes rose in value from 815 to 912 lákhs. The cause of this increase was the financial prosperity of the year. The net circulation of notes of Rs. 100 and below in value exceeded in each month the circulation in the corresponding month of the previous year. The circulation of notes of Rs. 500 and over in value was also higher than in 1902-1903. In the cold season it began to decline owing to the demand for coin to finance the crops, but heavy imports of gold caused it to rise again till it reached its highest point in February. The daily average number of Home Circle notes received from and issued to the public showed further increases of 67 and 1,130 respectively. The value of Foreign Circle notes encashed rose slightly to Rs. 2,66,27,380, the increase being in notes of the Calcutta, Allahabad, and Madras Circles, those of all other Circles showing a decrease.

Coins withdrawn.

2. Defaced coins withdrawn from circulation numbered 8,779 as compared with 11,700 in the previous year.

Small silver coin.

3. Receipts of small silver coin declined by Rs. 4·89 lákhs to Rs. 7·58 lákhs, while issues rose by Rs. 5·01 lákhs to Rs. 21·31 lákhs.

Gold coins.

4. Receipts of sovereigns and half-sovereigns from the public amounted to Rs. 487 lákhs, of which Rs. 452 lákhs were received direct from importers of gold. Issues to the public were Rs. 152 lákhs including Rs. 9 lákhs exported from India. The net issues of sovereigns to the general public for ordinary circulation amounted to Rs. 1,08,30,277.

Silver bullion.

5. Silver bullion purchased in England and India amounted in value to Rs. 651 lákhs. Of this Rs. 457 lákhs worth was coined and Rs. 141 lákhs worth was remitted to Calcutta.

Agencies.

6. The Nagpur Agency, the only permanent Agency in the Presidency, issued notes to the value of Rs. 5,18,000 and received notes to the value of Rs. 6,25,000. At the close of the year there were, besides, 18 temporary agencies, which had an aggregate balance of Rs. 62,85,000.

Lost and mutilated notes.

7. During the year Rs. 17,190 were paid on bonds of indemnity in respect of 317 lost or mutilated notes. Two hundred and sixty-two half or mutilated notes of a value of Rs. 7,935 were credited to Government. Orders for payment and investment were passed in respect of notes of the value of Rs. 120 which were wholly destroyed.

Forged notes.

8. Several new forgeries of notes came to light during the year. In five cases prosecutions were instituted and in all six persons were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and transportation.

II—Karachi Circle.

Circulation.

1. The value of notes in circulation decreased by Rs. 18,25,815 to Rs. 1,11,15,480. There were, however, increases in the issues of all kinds of notes save those for Rs. 5 and Rs. 10,000 the total net increase being one of 56,939 pieces.

Foreign notes.

2. There was an increase of Rs. 52,88,255 in the value of Foreign Circle notes encashed, the total value of such notes encashed being Rs. 1,36,31,535.

Coins withdrawn.

3. Defaced coin to the value of Rs. 201 was received and cut and returned to the presenters.

Small silver coin.

4. Receipts of small silver coins declined from Rs. 8,931 to Rs. 1,197 in value, while issues increased from Rs. 1,66,282 to Rs. 2,13,030.

Lost and mutilated notes.

5. Claims to 62 notes of a value Rs. 5,095 were admitted against claims to 35 notes of a value of Rs. 1,230 in the previous year. Nineteen half or mutilated notes of a value of Rs. 680 were credited to Government.

Remittances.

6. Rs. 1,11,61,000 in silver were received from the Bombay and other currency chests and Rs. 55,70,000 were remitted in the same medium to the Sind and frontier currency chests. Sovereigns to the value of Rs. 1,80,000 were remitted to the currency chest, Quetta.

Cancellations.

7. The total number of Karáchi Circle notes cancelled during the year was 191,289 of a total value of Rs. 2,07,16,840.

4. Land Revenue.

The total demand on account of "Land Revenue", including the demand on account of former years, amounted to Rs. 4,33,33,960. The total amount collected during the year was Rs. 3,94,56,670. In the previous year out of a total demand of Rs. 4,12,01,363 the realizations amounted to Rs. 3,70,61,893. The increase of Rs. 23,94,777 is distributed among all the divisions, but is only slight save in Sind, which showed a total increase of over Rs. 20 lákhs in collections owing to the good inundation. The percentage of total collections to the total demand rose from 89·9 to 91·05.

5. Irrigation Revenue.

The revenue credited to this head falls under two categories, *viz.*, (1) the direct receipts of the Irrigation Department and (2) the irrigation share of the land revenue assessed with reference to the supply of water from canals, tanks, dams, and other sources created or maintained by the Public Works Department. The works are also divided into three classes; the first includes entirely new works and works restored or extensively improved for which capital and revenue accounts are kept; the second includes old works which are maintained by the department and for which only revenue accounts are kept, and the third includes agricultural works for which neither capital nor revenue accounts are kept. The direct receipts on account of works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept were as follows:—

	Rs.
Imperial.	
(1) Productive Public Works—	
(*a*) Sind	2,65,779
(*b*) Dakhan and Gujarát	4,33,058
(2) Protective Public Works—	
(*a*) Dakhan and Gujarát	2,83,405
(3) Minor Irrigation Works—	
(*a*) Sind	70,488
(*b*) Dakhan and Gujarát	89,254
Total ...	11,41,984
Provincial.	
Minor Works and Navigation—	
(*a*) Dakhan and Gujarát	47,933
Grand Total ...	11,89,917

The corresponding receipts for 1902-1903 were Rs. 9,77,170. The irrigation share of land revenue on account of woks for which capital and revenue accounts are kept was as follows :—

Imperial.

	Rs.
(1) Productive Public Works—	
(*a*) Sind	19,93,448
(*b*) Dakhan and Gujarát	4,031
(2) Minor Irrigation Works—	
(*a*) Sind	13,89,769
(*b*) Dakhan and Gujarát	6,440
Total ...	33,93,688

The following table shows the financial position at the close of the year of irrigation works of all classes for which capital and revenue accounts are kept :—

	Capital outlay in the year.	Capital outlay up to the end of the year.	Working expenses during the year.	Net Revenue during the year, direct and indirect.
Imperial.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Productive Works ...	12,57,156	3,63,49,396	9,31,780	17,64,536
Protective Works ...	1,30,291	94,29,519	79,059	2,04,346
Minor Works and Navigation...	4,29,792	1,18,01,094	4,40,928	11,16,023
Provincial.				
Minor Works and Navigation...	3,275	9,40,045	11,844	36,089
Total ...	18,20,514	5,85,20,054	14,63,611	31,19,994

The revenue and expenditure on account of works for which only revenue accounts are kept were as follows :—

	Work in Sind.	Works in the Deccan and Gujarát.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Revenue ... ... Direct ...	42,265	8,032	50,297
Gross Revenue ... ... Indirect ...	24,46,655	5,12,889	29,59,544
Total ...	24,88,920	5,20,921	30,09,841
Working Expenses	11,09,889	4,59,975	15,69,864
Net Revenue ...	13,79,031	60,946	14,39,977

The revenue and expenditure in respect of the works for which neither capital nor revenue accounts are kept were as follows :—

	Works in Sind.	Works in the Deccan and Gujarát.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Revenue ... Direct ...	4,465	1,581	6,046
Gross Revenue ... Indirect ...	7,45,763	.....	7,45,763
Total ...	7,50,228	1,581	7,51,809
Working Expenses	6,80,804	56,246	7,37,050
Net Revenue ...	69,424	—54,665	14,759

Public Works Revenue.

The Public Works revenue falls under two heads—Imperial Military and Provincial Civil. The revenue under the former head derived mainly from miscellaneous sources fell from Rs. 10,723 to Rs. 10,326. The Provincial Civil Revenue consisting chiefly of tolls on roads and receipts from sales of buildings rose from Rs. 5,84,042 to Rs. 8,92,874, the receipts from the latter showing an increase of Rs. 2,55,759.

7. Customs.

For details see the Annual Report on Customs for 1903-1904.

1. Sea Customs.

Port of Bombay.

Imperial and provincial revenue.

1. The total net revenue of the Bombay Customs House was Rs. 1,74,11,770 (Imperial Rs. 1,73,44,201 and Provincial Rs. 67,569) as compared with Rs. 1,72,73,979 (Imperial Rs. 1,72,07,459 and Provincial Rs. 66,520) in the previous year. Import duties which constitute more than 97 per cent. of the whole net Imperial revenue rose by over Rs. 2 lákhs to nearly Rs. 170 lákhs, while the net receipts from the export duty of three annas per maund on rice and rice flour exported to foreign ports were Rs. 2,49,401 against Rs. 3,17,944 in 1902-1903. The increase in Provincial receipts is due to improvements under the heads of "Transhipment fees" and "Fees for amendments and duplicates of Customs documents".

Refunds and drawbacks.

2. Refunds totalled Rs. 4,22,773 against Rs. 2,14,297 in the previous year. Refunds of countervailing duties on sugar amounted to Rs. 3,12,054. Refunds of duty made to the Káshmir Darbár on goods exported to Káshmir decreased from Rs. 49,265 to Rs. 33,763 owing to contraction in exports of silver. Drawback refunds of seven-eighths of the import duty granted on re-exportation amounted to Rs. 2,45,850 as against Rs. 2,78,447. The decrease is really an account one as payment of some claims was not made till after the close of the financial year. There was really a considerable increase owing to the revival in the re-exports of foreign merchandise. The main increases are in copper sheets and tin blocks while silver bullion and green tea show decreases of Rs. 27,134 and Rs. 23,666 respectively.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 6,28,538 to Rs. 6,37,591. The percentage of expenditure to net collection was 3·66 in 1903-1904 against 3·63 in 1902-1903.

Bonding transactions.

4. Bonding transactions show a considerable decrease in value and increase in duty. The decrease in value was principally under sugar. There was a decrease of 1,534,017 gallons in quantity and Rs. 5,41,280 in value of the kerosine oil bonded.

Customs offences.

5. The total number of Customs cases was 950, of which 348 were under the Merchandise Marks Act and 602 under the Sea Customs Act. Of the latter class in 445 cases fines to the amount of Rs. 7,589 were imposed while in 2 cases the goods were confiscated and sold.

Continental Ports.

The direct foreign trade of the Continental Ports is insignificant. Customs receipts rose by Rs. 12,078 to Rs. 98,304 owing to increased importations of cocoanuts and exportations of rice.

Ports in Sind.

Though the gross receipts of the Customs Department in Sind were less by 12 per cent. than those of the previous year, the net receipts of the year under report amounted to Rs. 33,69,731, *i.e.*, Rs. 1,36,310 or 4 per cent. more than those of the previous year. The reason for this was the smaller refunds of countervailing duties on sugar, which showed a decrease of Rs. 5,42,363. Export duties improved by nearly Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 1,52,959. The net imperial revenue shows an increase of Rs. 1,37,157 which represents a real increase in the volume of trade. The expenditure of the department increased from Rs. 1,45,978 to Rs. 1,56,538.

2. Land Customs.

The land Customs stations on the Goa and Daman frontiers remained unchanged. On January 1st, 1904, Customs Stations were established on the frontier of Káthiáwár. The chief Custom house is at Viramgám Station, while 7 stations have been opened on the main roads leading from Káthiáwár to British territory. The revenue realised from the new customs frontier during 3 months was Rs. 5,925. The total Customs receipts on the land frontiers were Rs. 1,23,292 against Rs. 64,099 in the previous year. The increase in receipts on the Portuguese frontiers is attributable to a better season. Petroleum imported at Castle Rock increased in quantity from 2,255,258 to 2,584,251 gallons. The patrol path on the Daman frontier was realigned and a cactus hedge planted. The number of cases adjudicated under the Land Customs Act rose from 402 to 698 owing to the establishment of the Káthiáwár Customs frontier.

8. Opium

For details see the Annual Report on Opium for 1903-1904 and tables under IV—Opium—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

General.

1. This summary deals with opium as an item of imperial revenue only. Information regarding opium as an item of excise will be found under the head of excise.

Imports into Bombay.

2. The duty-paid exports from the several scales to Bombay for exportation and home consumption were 27,237½ chests or 6,042½ chests more than in the previous year. Exports from Ahmedabad and Rutlam decreased, but those from all other agencies show increases. Taking into consideration chests which had not arrived at Bombay before the close of the year and chests which passed the scales during the previous year but only arrived into Bombay during the year under report, the actual importations into Bombay amount to 27,498½ chests and the duty actually realised at Rs. 500 per chest amounts to Rs. 1,38,32,750. Thus together with last year's balance of 885½ chests, there were in all 28,384 chests lodged in the Bombay Opium Warehouse.

Disposal of opium.

3. Of the opium lodged in the Bombay Opium Warehouse, 25,340 chests were exported to China, 38 chests to Singapore and 22 chests to Zanzibar and other African Ports, while 943½ chests were sold for consumption in the Presidency, and 580 chests were supplied to the Madras Presidency. The exports to China were more by 6,034½ chests than in the previous year and by 7,838 chests than in 1901-1902. The increase was due partly to a rumoured failure of the China crop. The rumour proved to be exaggerated and shipments to China have since declined.

Price of opium.

4. The average prices of opium, including the export duty, in the Bombay market were Rs. 1,223 per chest for one-year old and Rs. 1,332 per chest for two-year old opium against Rs. 1,221 and Rs. 1,279, respectively, during the previous year.

Opium transactions of the Baroda State.

5. The area under poppy cultivation in Baroda was 18,398 acres against 5,565 acres in the previous year and an average of 2,920 acres during the three years ending in 1900-01. The increased area is due to the good outturn of the poppy crop during the year 1902-03. Five hundred chests were exported *viâ* Bombay to China as against 850 chests in the previous year.

Total Imperial revenue and expenditure.

6. The total Imperial revenue from opium during the year was *Rs. 1,31,15,903* against Rs. 99,59,011 in the previous year, the increase of Rs. 31½ lákhs being due to increased exports to China. The only expenditure which is debited to Imperial opium is on account of a portion of the opium establishment employed in Bombay City and at the Ahmedabad Agency, which amounted to Rs. 24,606 against Rs. 17,878 during the eight months ending on March 31st, 1903.

9. Salt.

For details *see* the Report of the Salt Department of the Bombay Presidency for 1903-1904 and tables under III—Salt—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

Source of supply.

1. The Bombay Presidency Salt Department has to deal with three kinds of Salt (i) Baragra Salt, manufactured at the Pritchard Works at Kharaghoda and Udu on the Runn; (ii) Sea Salt, produced at works on the Coast; (iii) Imported Salt, produced mainly in Portuguese India.

Baragra salt.

2. The balance of Baragra Salt in hand was 41·55 lákhs of maunds, and the produce during the year 23·45 lákhs, making a total of 65 lákhs of maunds. Removals during the year totalled 22,70,210 maunds, or 1,78,702 maunds more than in the previous year. The increase was well distributed, issues for local consumption and for export to the Central Provinces, the United Provinces, and to Central India all showing considerable improvement. In issues for local consumption, there was an increase in removals to all places save Mahi Kántha, where the decrease is insignificant. Baroda imported 12,812 maunds of Baragra salt more than in the previous year, as well as 6,109 more maunds of sea salt from Dharasna. With the increase of staff on the Tankária beat, a further improvement may be expected, especially when the proposed new Salt rules are brought into force in Baroda territory. The percentage of wastage and loss rose from 0·28 to 1·04. Fifteen pans at the Pritchard Works were closed at the beginning of the year, reducing the number in use to 400. The total crop fell slightly to 21½ lákhs of maunds. This was not added to the balance till after the close of the year. With it the closing balance was 63 lákhs of maunds or about three years' supply. The cost price remained stationary at 1 anna 3 pies per maund. The sum paid at this rate to the Agrias was Rs. 1,59,524, which gives an average wage of Rs. 133 per man for a working season of about 6 months. The quantity of salt sold at the agencies rose from 3·39 to 3·86 lákhs of maunds. Owing to the shortage in the stocks of sea salt, the traders raised their prices. With the object of lessening the inconvenience to the public, three new temporary agencies were opened in November 1903 at Bombay, Poona and Sholápur, but Baragra salt was found to have no chance against sea salt in the Deccan and all three agencies were closed in April 1904 owing to the unsatisfactory sales.

Sea salt.

3. The heavy and unseasonable rain in 1903 greatly lessened the production of the Coast Salt Works, the total quantity of salt produced falling by 17 lákhs of maunds to 58½ lakhs of maunds. The removals amounted to 64½ lákhs of maunds, and the closing balance was reduced from 13 to 2 lákhs of maunds. The only works which were not affected were the Government Salt Works at Dharasna, the output of which improved by 51,323 maunds to 221,430 maunds. In the outturn of other salt works there was a decrease of 1,774,608 maunds. There was a decrease of 740,423 maunds in removals for consumption within and without the Presidency, the decrease being general except in the case of Foreign Malabar, to which removals increased by 90,121 maunds. The issues from Umbargaon, Shiroda and Sanikatta, which were almost exclusively for local consumption, show only slight variations. The percentage of loss and wastage at Dharasna was 4·9 against 3·54 in the previous year: at other sea salt works it decreased from 8·06 to 7·09.

The average price rose at all places. In the Northern and Middle Konkan it was 3 annas 11 pies, at Shiroda 5 annas 9 pies and at Sanikatta 4 annas 9 pies per maund.

Imported Salt.

4. The quantity of salt imported by land and sea rose slightly to 280,855 maunds, of this 267,281 maunds were Goa Salt against 264,897 maunds in the previous year. Practically no Bombay salt is now despatched up-country *viâ* Castle Rock, owing to the reduction in the rates of freight *viâ* Poona.

Consumption.

5. The quantity of salt issued for local consumption increased slightly to 2,678,320 maunds, which gives an average per head of 10·50 lbs. as against one of 10·38 in the previous year. In Gujarát the average rose from 8·9 lbs. to 9·9 lbs., while in the rest of the Presidency it decreased from 10·9 lbs. to 10·7 lbs. The average market-price varied from Rs. 4-5-11 in Bombay to Rs. 2-9-0 at Ahmedabad. In places supplied with Baragra salt consumers benefited by the reduction of 8 annas in the rate of duty, but in the Konkan the rate was higher than in the previous year owing to the deficiency in the stocks of sea salt.

Revenue and expenditure.

6. The total revenue, including Provincial receipts, fell by Rs. 52,91,938 to Rs. 1,80,47,694. The reduction of the rate of duty from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 2-0-0, which took effect from March 18th, 1903, reduced the import duty on salt by land by Rs. 1,26,604. The same cause combined with the reduction in the amount of salt issued reduced the excise duty on salt by Rs. 52,06,852. The only other noticeable item under the head of revenue is an increase of Rs. 16,456 in the proceeds of the sale of Baragra salt owing to larger sales. Expenditure increased by Rs. 16,784 to Rs. 17,05,841. No individual items call for remark.

Fish-curing yards.

7. The number of fish-curing yards increased by 2 to 29, 14 being in Ratnágiri and 15 in Kánara. The fishing season was a good one and the quantity of fish cured rose from 113,806 maunds to 184,462 maunds, and that of salt issued from 36,941 to 56,414 maunds. Removals of cured fish also rose from 87,832 to 142,040 maunds. The financial results showed a net profit of Rs. 6,414 as against one of Rs. 2,173 in the previous year.

Offences.

8. The number of offences against the Salt Law again fell to 710, *i.e.*, 718 less than in the previous year. There were 358 cases of clandestine removal of natural Salt, 246 in the Northern Division and 112 in the Southern Division. Smuggling cases fell from 213 to 169 in number owing in a great measure to the re-alignment of the Daman Frontier. Thefts from Salt works also fell from 30 to 26. The percentage of convictions was 95·4 as compared with 96·1 in 1902.

Compensation.

9. Compensation on account of awards of the mixed commission to the extent of Rs. 1,575 was paid during the year.

Chief events.

10. The chief event of the year was the cyclone in May 1903, which not only destroyed existing stocks but closed the manufacturing season by flooding the pans. There was some danger of a salt famine. Permission was given to re-open disused pans and the minimum amount of salt required to be stacked in a heap was reduced from 120 to 60 maunds. Depôts for the sale of Baragra salt, as mentioned in paragraph 2, were opened, but without any great success. A fairly favourable manufacturing season has since replenished the stocks to some extent.

Other points of interest are the establishment of the Káthiáwár Customs Frontier through the agency of the Salt Department, and the re-alignment of the Daman Frontier, by which the length to be patrolled was reduced to 19 miles.

SIND.

Sources of supply.

1. The sources of supply continued unchanged. The Maurypur Salt Works were as usual by far the most important.

Production and sales.

2. The year opened with a balance of only 56,176 maunds in hand, owing to the destruction of over 2 lákhs of maunds at the Maurypur Works by the cyclone of June 1902. Manufactures during the year rose by over 50,000 maunds to 349,575 maunds. Of this 275,911 maunds were removed, 12,432 maunds were supplied at cost price to His Highness the Mir of Khairpur, and loss and wastage amounted to 5,201 maunds. There was thus a closing balance of 111,518 maunds. Sales decreased by 1,044 maunds in spite of the reduction in duty. The average wholesale price for Maurypur salt fell from Rs. 3-7-0 to Rs. 2-14-3, showing a reduction of 9 pies, in addition to the reduction of 8 annas in duty.

Imports and consumption.

3. Including 1,443 maunds of table and 11,282 maunds of rock salt imported by private agency from Europe and the Punjáb, 287,626 maunds were consumed, giving an average per head of population of 7·37 lbs. against one of 7·39 lbs. in the previous year.

Fish-curing.

4. At the Shamspir yard 970 maunds of salt were issued at Re. 1 per maund for curing 4,614 maunds of fish against 1,205 for curing 9,295 maunds in the previous year.

Revenue and expenditure.

5. The gross receipts from excise duty and other charges were Rs. 6,29,362 against Rs. 7,79,608 in 1902-1903, the fall being due to the reduction in the duty. Expenditure was Rs. 1,34,358 against Rs. 1,40,231.

Offences.

6. The number of detected offences against the Salt Law fell from 202 to 128.

ADEN.

1. The quantity of salt produced rose by 4,028 maunds to 88,247 maunds. Of this 62 607 maunds were exported into the interior of Arabia and 25,639 maunds were consumed in British limits. Receipts rose to Rs. 17,650 and expenditure fell to Rs. 1,848. Salt in Aden.

2. The exports of salt from the Italian factory at Shaikh Othman rose by 25,370 tons to 80,934 tons, owing to increased demand from Calcutta and Penang. Italian Salt Works at Shaikh Othman.

10. Excise.

For details *see* the Annual Report of the Excise Department for 1903-1904 and tables under V—Excise—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

1. The Abkári year now ends with the financial year on March 31st. General.

2. The new separate shop system of country liquor sale, noted last year as being tried in Belgaum, was introduced into Poona, Sátára and Khándesh Districts. In the case of the last named district it was slightly modified, the shops or groups of shops being disposed of by a system of tender of minimum guarantee of duty instead of the license fees being fixed by auctions. The chief points about the new system are that it does away with the old monopoly system of having one contractor only for a very large number of shops and that no fixed maximum retail price is laid down by Government. In Poona, Sátára and Belgaum prices ranged from Re. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0 per bottle against the fixed price of 13 or 14 annas under the old system and the result was a decrease in the consumption and the partial ousting of country liquor by cheap imported spirits and Indian rum excised at tariff rates. In Khándesh on the other hand there was a large increase in consumption. Changes in administration.

The Dángs were transferred from the Khándesh to the Surat District for Abkári management.

Arrangements have been made with Native States to secure the effective control of hemp drugs. Cocaine has been held to be an intoxicating drug and its sale, except under a license, prohibited.

3. Still-head duty increased by nearly 5½ lákhs to Rs. 67,34,627. The total increase is 258,807 gallons and it is visible in all districts save those abovementioned and points to improved prosperity. Surat (70,142 gallons) and Khándesh (66,596 gallons) show the largest increases. License fees for the sale of country spirits in Bombay, Belgaum, Poona and Sátára realised Rs. 9,44,986. There was a slight increase in the amount of toddy spirit distilled. Country spirit.

4. The revenue from toddy amounted to Rs. 15,52,000, an increase of more than one and a half lákhs. About Rs. 9¾ lákhs were realised as fees for tapping of various kinds. While fees for the sale of toddy realised more than Rs. 5½ lákhs or nearly one lákh more than last year. An experiment in manufacturing jagri from toddy was made but proved hardly a financial success. Fewer licenses for domestic consumption were given, this form of license being considered to be specially liable to abuse. The consumption of toddy increased by over 7 lákhs of gallons. Toddy.

5. The noticeable feature is the large increase in the quantity of rum distilled near Poona which was excised at tariff rates and which owing to the high price of country liquor found a market in Poona and Sátára. 10,711 gallons as against 406 in 1902-1903 were put on sale in foreign liquor shops and 14,618 gallons was diluted to 25° U. P. and supplied to the country liquor vendors in Sátára. Foreign liquor and Indian liquor excised at tariff rates.

6. There was a large increase in the amount of Gánja produced and a small one in that of Bhánng. 163 licenses were granted for the sale of cocaine. Intoxicating drugs other than opium.

7. The total stock of opium for home consumption was 1,161 chests (including 72 chests imported free of duty by Native States) as against 1,032 chests in the previous year, and the amount of duty realised increased by nearly Rs. 70,000 to Rs. 7,61,250. In British districts the quantity sold was 81,616 lbs., an increase of 8,000 lbs. on 1902-1903. The increase was general in the selection districts—Sholápur, Khándesh, Ahmednagar and Ahmedabad, all having increases of over 1,000 lbs. In the non-selection districts, that is, where the separate shop system is in force, there was a general decrease in consumption due to the abolition of the fixed maximum price and the high prices charged in consequence. To the Native States opium to the extent of 48,231 lbs. duty paid and 9,800 lbs. duty free was supplied against 25,087 lbs. and 4,015 lbs. respectively in the eight months of the previous year. The proportionate consumption in Native States increased especially in Káthiáwár, Pálanpur and Cutch. This increase, as those elsewhere, is attributable to reviving prosperity. In Baroda the licit sales of opium locally produced increased by over 1,200 lbs. to 23,302 lbs. Opium.

8. The total excise receipts exceeded those of 1902-1903 by over 11½ lákhs amounting to 106 lákhs. The chief increase is under "country spirit" which increased by 8½ lákhs to nearly 78 lákhs, but the increase is general, "toddy" improving by 1¾ lákhs and opium by nearly Rs. 90,000 to 7¼ lákhs. Excise revenue.

Incidence of taxation Abkári Revenue.

9. The average incidence of Abkári taxation per head of population was 10 annas 2 pies as compared with 8 annas 10 pies, the average for the preceding five years. As usual, it was highest in Bombay, being Rs. 4-2-8 per head against a five years' average of Rs. 3-11-9, and lowest in Kaira, *viz.* 10 pies against an average of 9 pies. Other noticeable averages were Rs. 1-11-9 and Rs. 1-5-4 in Surat and Thána, respectively, and Re. 0-1-7 in Sátára.

Expenditure.

10. The total expenditure (exclusive of refunds, compensation to Native States and drawbacks, which amount to nearly 5½ lákhs) was Rs. 4,64,322 against Rs. 4,18,587 in 1902-1903, the increase being due to enlarged establishment.

Offences against A'bkári law.

11. The total number of offences detected during the year under the heads (1) offences relating to liquor and toddy and (2) offences relating to hemp drugs were 2,630 and 511 against 2,159 and 354 in 1902-1908 respectively. Panch Mahals and Thána showed marked increases in detected cases of illicit distillation, whereas Khándesh and Kaira show large decreases. Illicit distillation is reported to be still rife in Násik, Broach and parts of Surat, where the Mhowra Flowers Act does not apply. On the total number of cases brought up for trial the percentage of convictions was 91·8 as against 94·5 in 1902-1903.

Offences against Opium Act.

12. In British districts and Native States out of 302 persons tried for offences against the Opium Act 268 were convicted as against 173 and 149, the respective figures for the eight months ending March 1903.

SIND.

Changes in system.

1. The only changes which took place in the system of A'bkári administration were as follows:—

(i) Cocaine was included in the definition of intoxicating drugs and its sale, save under a license, prohibited;

(ii) the possession and sale of rectified spirits for medicinal purposes was regulated by licenses.

Revenue.

2. The net A'bkári revenue from all sources was Rs. 12,18,191 as against Rs. 8,19,664 for the eight months of the previous year which gives a total of Rs. 12,29,496 proportionately for the whole year.

Country liquor.

3. The consumption of country liquor was stationary, 183,059 gallons being sold. There were 21 stills licensed to manufacture country liquor. The distillery at Kotri produced 143,525 gallons as against 137,983 gallons in the previous year. The average incidence of the Abkári revenue per head of population was Re. 0-5-7 as against an average of Re. 0-6-0 in the previous five years.

Foreign liquor.

4. The sale of foreign liquors decreased under all heads save liqueurs. The reason of this is that in the previous year the Coronation Darbár at Delhi caused a demand from the Punjáb.

Toddy.

5. The revenue from toddy was Rs. 1,020 as against a proportionate amount of Rs. 1,197 for the previous year.

Intoxicating drugs.

6. The consumption of both bháng and charas increased considerably, while the revenue from these items decreased slightly to Rs. 2,37,695.

Expenditure.

7. The total expenditure of the Excise Department (Abkári and Opium) was Rs. 35,795 as against Rs. 24,085 in the eight months of the previous year.

Opium.

8. The introduction of the single shop system for the sale of opium is in contemplation. The licit sales of opium amounted to 19,900 lbs. as against 19,395 lbs. in the previous year. The rate of consumption per head of population rose from ·24 tola to ·25 tola. The total excise opium receipts rose slightly to Rs. 1,15,590. Eleven persons were prosecuted under the Opium Act and eight covicted.

ADEN.

The total Abkári receipts at Aden and Perim were Rs. 1,22,618 as compared with Rs. 70,604 in the eight months of the previous year which gives a proportionate rate of Rs. 1,05,906 for the whole year. The opium sales decreased slightly proportionately to those of the last year. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 9,469.

11. Cotton Duties Act.

Cloth and yarn.

1. The number of cotton mills increased from 136 to 138 during the year. There was a further increase of 12,251,492 pounds or about 12 per cent. in the amount of woven goods produced. The increase was a general one, being distributed between Bombay Island, Ahmedabad and the mofussil. The principal increase was under "Grey Goods" though most other descriptions also show an increase. The cause of the increase was an improved demand caused by the returning prosperity of the people, combined with a favourable Indian cotton crop. The production of yarn shows a slight decline as the rise in the price of cotton was not accompanied by one in the price of yarn. The decrease amounted to 4,593,836 pounds or approximately 1 per cent.

2. Corresponding with the increase in production there was an increase in the quantity of goods exported amounting to nearly 20 per cent. The goods exported went chiefly to East African ports. Exports.

3. The net revenue increased by Rs. 1,77,599 to Rs. 17,28,327. Financial results.

12. Stamps.

For details *see* Annual Report of the Stamp Department and tables under VII—Stamps—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

1. The gross receipts from all sources under the Stamp Act and the Court-fees Act rose from Rs. 59,96,193 to Rs. 61,47,423. Receipts from "General" stamps increased by Rs. 1,41,008 to Rs. 26,39,623, and receipts from Court-fees by Rs. 10,222 to Rs. 35,07,800. The increase in General stamps is visible under every sub-head, and is a clear indication of commercial prosperity. Charges remained practically stationary at Rs. 2,51,457. Revenue.

2. The number of licences for the sale of stamps rose by 17 to 1,339 and the discount paid rose by Rs. 3,534 to Rs. 99,009. Licenses.

3. The number of insufficiently stamped documents on which duty and penalty were levied, rose from 1,606 to 2,000, and the duty and penalty realised amounted to Rs. 27,980 against Rs. 22,538. Documents impounded.

4. Prosecutions numbered 22 or 6 more than in the previous year. There were 19 convictions, and the fines levied amounted to Rs. 1,004 against Rs. 112 in the previous year. Prosecutions.

13. Income Tax.

For details *see* the Annual Report on Income Tax and tables under VIII—Income Tax—appended to the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India.

The final demand, including penalties and arrears, amounted in all to Rs. 33,94,075 against Rs. 38,01,815 in the previous year. Collections fell to Rs. 30,85,176.

14. Forests.

The total income from forests for the financial year increased by Rs. 4,22,383 to Rs. 27,51,539, and the expenditure by Rs. 96,359 to Rs. 17,72,800.

15. Local Funds.

1.—Incorporated Local Funds.

1. Information as to District Local Funds and the Steam Boiler Inspection Fund will be found in Chapters III and IV respectively.

2. The receipts of the Sind Village Officers' Cess Fund were stationary at Rs. 4,21,561. The expenditure increased by Rs. 6,536 on account of charges in connection with the "Jámráo Colonization Survey", and a small increase under pensions. Sind Village Officer's Cess Fund.

3. The balance of the Government Central Book Depôt Fund improved by Rs. 10,130. Charges in connection with the Vernacular Text Book Revision Committee, amounting to Rs. 14,585, were debited to the fund during the year under report. Government Central Book Depôt.

2.—Excluded Local Funds.

1. The total deficit of the non-self-supporting Cantonment Funds (Aden, Baroda, Bhuj, Karáchi, Purandhar and Rájkot) rose from Rs. 12,807 to Rs. 14,117. Among self-supporting funds, the Ahmedabad, Belgaum, Deoláli, Málegaon, and Poona Cantonments have considerably increased their balances. In the case of Poona, the improvement amounts to nearly Rs. 20,000, the most noteworthy item being an increased octroi revenue of Rs. 7,000. In the cases of the other funds, the increase is due to a general improvement in the receipts. The Hyderabad Fund shows a nominal decrease of Rs. 10,682 owing to the inclusion in last year's receipts of a loan of Rs. 10,000. The aggregate balance of the self-supporting funds improved by Rs. 17,526. Expenditure on plague measures in cantonments fell from Rs. 18,108 to Rs. 12,315. Cantonment Funds.

2. The total balance of the Mounted Police Funds shows a decrease of Rs. 3,756, which is, however, more than made up for by investments made during the year. Mounted Police Funds.

3. The receipts of the Northern Ports Fund increased under the head of "Port dues", but as its expenditure was greatly increased on account of outlay on works carried out by Public Works agency, its cash balance fell from Rs. 41,570 to Rs. 27,735. The balance of the Southern Ports Fund improved by Rs. 6,462 to Rs. 27,574 owing to decreased expenditure, while that of the Steam Vessels Survey Fund improved by Rs. 5,034. The Sea Pilotage Fund repaid an advance from Government of Rs. 1,200, but was again obliged to obtain from Government a contribution of Rs. 1,000. Port and Marine Funds.

The Port Trust Funds and the Indus Conservancy Fund have already been dealt with in Chapter III.

Medical and Charitable Funds.

4. The funds of one veterinary and five medical dispensaries still remained on the Accountant General's books, and had a cash balance of Rs. 13,189.

Other Funds.

5. Among Station Funds, the closing balances of the Mátherán, Mahábaleshvar, and Kolhápur Funds show increases amounting in all to Rs. 5,619, while that of Pánchgani shows a decrease of Rs. 1,484. This decrease is mainly an account one, as the receipts of the previous year included Rs. 970 recovered from the Kolhápur Darbár.

The balance of the Suitors' Fee Fund increased by Rs. 876. The only other fund which calls for notice was the newly formed Aden Settlement Fund, which had a closing balance of Rs. 1,14,871.

16. Municipal Revenue.

Information as to the income and expenditure of municipalities may be found in Chapter III.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL RELIEF.

1. Births and Deaths.

For details *see* Annual Report of the Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay for 1903 with appendices and tables under XIII—Vital Statistics—appended to Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

Europeans.

1. Births and deaths among the European civil population numbered 270 and 253 against 251 and 302 in 1902, giving ratios per mille of 14·36 and 13·45 against 13·35 and 16·06 respectively.

Eurasians.

2. Among Eurasians births numbered 139 (21·20 per mille) against 140 (21 35) in 1902 and deaths 160 (24·40) against 154 (23·49) in 1902.

Native population—Births.

3. Among the Native population 576,949 births were recorded, a decrease of 54,444 on the figures of 1902, giving a ratio of 31·22 against one of 34·16 per mille in 1902 and a decennial mean of 32·98 per mille.

By sexes.

4. The proportion by sexes was 107·94 male births for every 100 female births.

Deaths.

5. The number of registered deaths rose from 721,462 to 811,525, *i.e.* by 90,063. The ratio per mille rose from 39·04 to 43·91. Of the deaths, 281,269 or 34·66 per cent. were due to plague. The death rate was highest in Belgaum (74·53 per mille) and lowest in the Upper Sind Frontier (15·19) though in the latter case the registration is probably defective. Bombay, which last year had the highest rate (63·13), had this year a rate of 67 per mille.

By ages.

6. The largest ratio of deaths per mille living (316·75) was among male infants under one year, while the smallest was among males between the ages of 5 and 10.

By races.

7. The death rate among Muhamadans rose slightly from 30·04 to 30·65 per mille; the maximum rate (75·57) being in Ahmednagar and the minimum in Upper Sind (14·12). Among Hindus the death rate was 47·70 against 41·68 with a maximum of 75·38 in Dhárwár and a minimum of 18·95 in Thar and Párkar. Among Christians the rate rose slightly to 27·60, while among Parsis it was practically stationary at 27·11.

Causes of death.

8. Plague was the chief cause of death with a ratio of 15·22 per mille out of a total ratio of 43·91 per mille. Fevers, which had a ratio of 14·66 last year, had this year one of 14·05. Respiratory diseases and dysentery had ratios of 3·21 and 3·00 as against 3·21 and 3·17 in 1902.

Cholera.

9. Cholera claimed only 1,825 victims, the lowest mortality recorded since 1886. There was a distinct but slight epidemic in Sind. In the rest of the Presidency only scattered cases occurred.

Small-pox.

10. There were 2,732 deaths from small-pox, the decennial mean being 4,049. More than half the deaths occurred in Bombay City. Seventy per cent. of the deaths were among children under 10 years of age, and the mortality is noticeably most serious in places like Malegaon, where there is opposition to vaccination.

Fever.

11. Deaths from fever 259,704 in number were fewer by 10,000 than in 1902 and by nearly 100,000 than the decennial mean. Ahmedabad had a ratio of 31·19 against one of 39·50 in 1902. The ratio in the City of Bombay was only 3·02 per mille, a fact due probably to more accurate diagnosis as well as better treatment.

Plague.

12. The mortality was nearly 100,000 higher than in 1902, when it was the highest on record. All districts, save those in Upper Sind, were affected. The highest death rates were in Belgaum (45·37), Dhárwár (42·26), Sholápur (35·02), Bombay City (27·29), Ahmednagar (25·63), Sátára (24·50), Kaira (23·64) and Bijápur (21·26). Last year only three districts had ratios of over 20 per mille and none over 30 per mille. The monthly mortality varied from 38,476 in February to 3,268 in June.

Dysentery and diarrhœa.

13. The total number of deaths from these diseases was 55,443, a decrease of over 3,000 on the figures of last year.

Violent deaths.

14. Violent deaths were 6,693 in number; of these 3,040 were by drowning and 1,074 from snake-bites.

Respiratory diseases.

15. The deaths under this head numbered 59,349, the figures being almost identical with those of 1902.

Other causes.

16. Deaths from "Other Causes" number 144,510, an increase of nearly 10,000 as compared with the figures of 1902 but well below the decennial mean.

Influence of prices on birth and death rates.

17. The low prices of food-stuffs appear to have had little or no effect upon the birth and death rates.

2. Emigration and Immigration.

Movements by land.

1. The usual movements of labourers and mill-hands from one part of the Presidency to another and from neighbouring Native States to and from parts of the Presidency were less marked than in famine years. The principal directions which these movements take are as follows. There is a considerable influx into the various districts of Sind from Kohistan, the Afghan border, Káthiáwár and Cutch and other Native States. The larger part of the immigrants belong to nomadic tribes, who come for the kharif harvest and return after it is over. For the past three years a few Bhils have been seen among the harvest immigrants into Lárkána. These immigrants are all of them a source of considerable trouble owing to their lawless habits. In the Presidency proper during the fair season there is a yearly immigration of cartmen and mill-hands from the ghát and sea-coast districts near Bombay into that city. Nine thousand labourers are reported to have come into Bombay from Sátára during the year. In years of scarcity the numbers of these immigrants increase greatly. There are no other permanent streams of migration but in many parts sections of the population wander in search of labour both at and after harvest time. During years of scarcity considerable numbers of the lower classes wander to and fro between the Deccan districts and the Nizám's territory and between the southern districts of this Presidency and the Madras Presidency. No movements of this kind took place during the year except that 4,000 people are reported to have left the Sirur Táluka of Poona owing to bad crops. The Gadag Gold Mines in Dhárwár caused a small influx of labourers from the Madras Presidency.

Movements by sea.

2. A few Mahomedans and Borahs from the sea-coast districts of Broach, Surat, Ratnágiri and Kolába emigrate to South Africa. They nearly always return to their homes when they have made a little money. The numbers have always been small and have recently become smaller owing to the enforcement of the new regulations against immigrants to South African Ports. Many of this class are, however, qualified against those regulations by education and means. The number of registered emigrants who left the Port of Bombay during the year was 62, of these 3 went as artisans to Chinde and 59 went for Exhibition purposes to the St. Louis Exhibition. From the Port of Karáchi only 25 artisans embarked for Mombasa during the year, the demand for coolie labour having ceased with the completion of the Uganda Railway. The number of emigrants who returned from Africa to Karáchi was 5,815. The figures for both ports show that there was practically no real emigration during the year.

3. Medical Relief.

For details *see* Report on the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries under the Government of Bombay for 1903 and also Tables under XLV—Hospitals—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-1904.

Number of institutions.

1. The total number of medical institutions in the Presidency and Sind rose from 638 at the beginning of the year to 644 at its close. Twenty-two new ones were opened and 16 were closed. At the end of the year there were 61 State, 240 Local Fund and Municipal, 299 Private, and 44 Railway institutions.

Number of patients.

2. The total number of persons treated in these institutions was 4,032,441, or 1,256 more than in the previous year. The number of in-door patients decreased slightly to 67,066. The number of beds available was 6,724 as compared with 6,335 in 1902. The ratio per cent. of males treated was 66·0 and of females 34·0.

Diseases.

3. The most common of diseases was, as usual, malarial fever. During the year under report admissions from this disease decreased in number, as also did admissions from cholera, dysentery, venereal affections and bowel complaints. There was, however, an increase in admissions from small-pox, cancer, debility, and respiratory and other diseases. The cases of venereal diseases treated fell from 111,522 to 100,113 in number. The number of patients admitted into hospitals and subsequently found to be suffering from plague was 1,197. Of these 356 died and 841 were transferred to Plague Hospitals.

Surgical operations.

4. The number of surgical operations performed in Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries fell by 2,253 to 84,558. The decrease was in minor operations, major operations increasing slightly in number. Of the 84,049 patients operated on, 67,901 were cured and 490 died.

Attendance by class and sex.

5. The number of Hindus treated at Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries was 1,485,524, that of Musalmans 611,000, and that of Europeans and Eurasians 18,775. The number of male and female adults and children treated was 1,078,732, 447,662 and 716,205, respectively. The figures indicate an increase in the number of children treated.

Receipts.

6. Exclusive of the cash balance, the total income was Rs. 14,12,979, of which Rs. 8,18,168 were received in grants from Government; Rs. 2,62,406 from Municipal and Rs. 1,77,146 from Local Funds. The figures show a total increase of Rs. 1,77,060 due to enhanced grants from Government and Municipalities. Subscriptions amounted to Rs. 10,293 and hospital fees to Rs. 69,954.

Expenditure.

7. The net cost rose from Rs. 11,67,177 to Rs. 12,98,249, and the cost per patient from Re. 0-9-0 to Re. 0-9-9. The average cost of each diet remained at Re. 0-2-7. Government paid 55·2 per cent. of the actual expenditure against 54·6 per cent. in 1902.

C.

4. Lunatic Asylums.

For details *see* the Report on the Lunatic Asylums under the Government of Bombay for the year 1903, and Tables under XV—Lunatics—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-1904.

Numbers. 1. In the seven Lunatic Asylums in the Presidency and Sind there were 797 inmates at the beginning of the year. During the year admissions were 300 in number and re-admissions 17; 93 patients were discharged cured and 167 were transferred to the care of their friends; and 66 died, leaving 782 inmates at the end of the year. The daily average number of sick was 34 against 38 in 1902. The daily average strength was 797 or 627·8 males and 169·2 females, and the ratio of deaths per mille to the average strength was 82 as against 90 in the previous year. Criminal lunatics were 134 in number. There was a large decrease in the number of Hindus and Mahomedans admitted after the high figures of the previous year. Admissions of Hindus were 114 and of Mahomedans 65 against 239 and 125, respectively. Out of 105 males admitted into the Kolába Asylums, 75 had been soldiers.

Cause of insanity. 2. Out of 603 known cases the causes of insanity were physical in 451 and moral in 152: in 511 cases they could not be ascertained. Of the physical causes, gánja-smoking was much the most common cause, as out of 603 cases insanity was attributed to it in 88 cases. In 46 cases the cause was spirit-drinking.

Expenditure. 3. The total expenditure rose slightly to Rs. 1,60,214. Rs. 15,506 were received in fees from paying patients. The profit on goods manufactured in the Asylums rose to Rs. 2,755.

5. Sanitation.

District Boards. 1. During the year the District and Táluka Local Boards spent Rs. 2,22,889 upon water-supply and drainage or very little less than in the previous year.

District Municipalities. 2. The total expenditure of District Municipalities in the Presidency and Sind upon sanitation including conservancy, drainage and water-supply rose from Rs. 15,90,638 to Rs. 17,55,490 (approximately). The item which accounts for this increase was the capital expenditure on new drainage works in Ahmedabad.

Village sanitation. 3. The number of villages to which the Village Sanitation Act extends was reduced during the year from 294 to 265 owing to the abolition of 37 committees in the Poona district. The number of villages in which the Village Sanitary Inspection Book has been introduced rose from 3,395 to 3,598. In 51 per cent. of these villages the book had been written up by officers of the Sanitary Department.

Bombay Municipality. 4. The total expenditure of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality was Rs. 19,79,373 or very slightly less than in the previous year.

Inspection of vessels at Bombay. 5. During the year 14,597 vessels with 719,322 crew and passengers were examined by the Health Officer of the Port of Bombay. The figures show a decrease in the number of vessels but an increase in the number of persons examined. Fifty-one vessels on which cases of infectious diseases had occurred were disinfected. The inspections resulted in the detection of 77 cases of plague, two of cholera, 238 of small-pox, 19 of measles, 81 of chicken-pox and seven of jigger.

Pilgrim traffic 6. Between October 17th, 1903 and January 30th, 1904, 16,401 pilgrims were segregated for ten days in specially erected camps at Pir Páo. Of these 19 died during segregation. Pilgrims returning from Mecca to Bombay numbered 6,466. Their baggage was disinfected before they left for their homes. Seven cases of small-pox were detected among them.

6. Vaccination.

For details *see* Report on Vaccination in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1903-1904 and Tables under XVI—Vaccination—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-1904.

General. 1. In British districts and Native States under the supervision of the Sanitary Department there were 551,244 persons primarily vaccinated and 35,830 persons revaccinated against 536,989 and 41,136, respectively, in the previous year. In the total number of operations there was an increase of 9,093. A very large majority of the operations were performed with human or animal lymph, but in the Southern Registration District vaccination with preserved lymph (lanoline paste) has met with great success and measures have been taken to facilitate its more extended use.

Primary vaccination. 2. Out of the total number of primary vaccinations, 510,726 or 92·65 per cent. were successful. The number of unsuccessful cases was 6,826 or 1·24 per cent., while unknown cases were 34,549 or 6·25 per cent. The number of infants successfully vaccinated, exclusive of Native States and Aden, was 363,038 or 79·99 per cent. of those available.

Primary vaccination by sex and race. 3. The number of males primarily vaccinated was 282,187 and of females 269,057, giving percentages on the total number of 51·19 and 48·81, respectively. Christians vaccinated numbered 4,961, Hindus 413,323, Mahomedans 95,606, and Parsis 1,752.

Revaccination.

4. Of the 35,830 revaccinations 19,768 were successful. In 31 per cent. of the cases the result could not be ascertained. The fall in the number of revaccinations and the large percentage of unknown cases is explained by the disturbance caused by plague. Excluding unknown cases the percentage of success was 80·15. Of those revaccinated 76·89 per cent. were males.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure fell by Rs. 15,420 to Rs. 2,69,068. The average cost of each successful case was 8 annas 2 pies against 8 annas 9 pies in the previous year.

7. Veterinary.

For details *see* Annual Report of the Civil Veterinary Department in the Bombay Presidency for 1903-1904.

Cattle disease.

1. Outbreaks of cattle disease were reported from all districts in the Presidency and in the Hyderabad and Karáchi Districts of Sind. In the Presidency the number of attacks was 7,650 against 2,488 in the previous year, and of these 60·75 per cent. proved fatal as against 27·09 per cent. There were no attacks of Rinderpest, but 2,359 of foot and mouth disease and 4,481 of "Charbon Symptomatique" or "Black-Quarter"—a disease which prevailed throughout the Presidency. In Sind 476 attacks were reported, of which 74·36 per cent. proved fatal, the most common disease being Anthrax.

Inoculations.

2. No inoculations were performed during the year.

Veterinary institutions.

3. There were 17 dispensaries open at the end of the year, 13 being stationary and 4 itinerant. The 17 Veterinary Graduates treated 27,513 animals or 1,595 more than in the previous year. There were also 4 veterinary dispensaries in Sind, the Graduates in charge of which treated 6,807 animals at dispensaries and in villages.

Financial results.

4. The receipts and expenditure of the veterinary dispensaries in the Presidency and Sind were Rs. 72,815 and Rs. 54,824, respectively.

Glanders and Farcy Act.

5. Twenty-two horses were admitted to the Lazarretto, of which 13 proved to be suffering from glanders, and were destroyed.

Imports.

6. The number of horses, donkeys and mules imported rose from 5,482 to 8,251. The increase was distributed among imports of Australian, Arab and Persian horses and ponies.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

CHAPTER VII—INSTRUCTION.

For—

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1901-1902, PART II, PAGES 168—169.

1. Education.

For details *see* the Report of the Director of Public Instruction for 1903-1904 and the Report of the Reformatory School at Yeravda for 1903, and Tables under X—Education—appended to the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India.

Number of Institutions and Pupils.

1. The total number of public educational institutions rose from 9,595 to 9,887, while the number of pupils fell from 530,286 to 513,479. Of these 437,471 were males and 76,008 female pupils. Besides these there were 2,573 private institutions with 64,881 pupils as compared with 2,623 institutions with 69,422 pupils in the previous year. The total number of educational institutions was therefore 12,460 with 578,360 pupils as compared with 12,218 institutions with 599,708 pupils in 1902-1903. Plague was the cause of the decrease in the attendance.

Collegiate Education, Arts Colleges.

2. In the ten arts colleges the total attendance rose from 2,100 to 2,357. The improvement in attendance was most marked in the Wilson and Fergusson Colleges, but was fairly general. The Elphinstone and Deccan Colleges were under the control of Government. Three colleges were maintained by Native States and five were aided. The total cost of the arts colleges was Rs. 4,16,537, of which Rs. 1,45,642 were contributed from Provincial revenues and Rs. 66,179 from the revenues of Native States. The total average cost of each scholar was Rs. 208, of which Government paid Rs. 73. Twenty-eight students passed the M.A. Examination and 356 the B.A. Examination.

Professional Colleges.

3. There were 5 Government professional colleges, the attendance at which improved to 1,316. The attendance in the Law School, Bombay, rose from 287 to 395, and fees from Rs. 18,845 to Rs. 20,585. In the Deccan College Law Class there were 47 students. In the College of Science, Poona, the attendance rose from 329 to 360. Of these 150 were in the Engineering branch and 39 in the Agricultural Department. The forest class in this college has been finally abolished. Attendance at the Grant Medical College rose by 20 to 677 and the fees from Rs. 79,480 to Rs. 98,753. There were 45 female pupils. The total cost of the college was Rs. 1,47,576.

Secondary schools: Results of examinations.

4. Out of 3,634 candidates for Matriculation 1,399 passed, giving a percentage of 38·5. Of the candidates, 1,554 had had private tuition only, and of these only 200 or 12·9 per cent. passed. Among candidates from schools the percentage of success was 57·6. For the University School Final Examination the number of candidates fell from 1,240 to 1,054. Among those from schools the percentage of successes was 49·1 while among private pupils it was only 16·4. 2,713 pupils appeared for the Third Grade Public Service Certificate Examination, and of these 1,422 passed.

Number of schools and scholars.

5. The number of secondary schools for boys increased from 422 to 424, but the number of pupils in them fell from 41,239 to 40,924. The decrease in this as in other cases is due to the ravages of plague. There were also 748 boys attending secondary schools for girls.

High schools.

6. Of the secondary schools for boys 106 were high schools as against 104 in the previous year. The attendance at them rose slightly to 24,754. The increase was chiefly in aided schools which rose from 41 with 9,289 pupils to 43 with 10,219 pupils. Attendance in the 20 Government high schools also increased from 4,996 to 5,050. Two new high schools were established in the Native States, bringing the total to 24 with 4,254 pupils.

Middle schools.

7. Middle schools for boys numbered 318 as in the previous year. The attendance decreased slightly to 16,170. Attendance in the 6 Government schools improved slightly. There were 98 aided schools, 89 schools in Native States, 58 unaided schools and 67 schools managed by Municipalities and Local Boards.

Expenditure.

8. The total expenditure on secondary schools for boys was Rs. 17,23,177 or slightly less than in the previous year. Provincial revenues contributed Rs. 3,58,370 against Rs. 3,50,701, while fees realised Rs. 7,87,930 against Rs. 7,83,672 in the previous year.

Primary education: Boys.

9. The number of primary schools for boys showed a further increase from 8,260 to 8,452, but the number of pupils fell from 428,782 to 410,400. Local Board schools increased from 3,830 to 4,146, Municipal schools from 544 to 583, schools in Native States from 2,028 to 2,060, while aided schools decreased from 1,753 to 1,534, and unrecognised schools from 2,623 to 2,573. In all classes of schools plague caused a decrease in the attendance. The most noticeable point in connection with primary schools is the growing popularity of the rural standards which were in use in 2,670 schools as compared with 2,288 in the previous year. This increase is specially remarkable in Sind, where 333 schools were teaching these standards as against 6 schools in 1902-1903. In Sind the number of primary schools rose to 473 and the number of pupils increased from 16,613 to 20,183. The large increase in the number of primary schools is due to the enhancement of the Government grants.

Expenditure.

10. The total expenditure on primary schools rose from Rs. 30,81,003 to Rs. 31,99,880. Provincial revenues contributed Rs. 9,54,218 as against Rs. 9,13,571 in the previous year.

Night schools.

11. The number of night-schools rose from 100 to 110 and that of scholars from 2,128 to 2,332.

Examination results.

12. In primary schools 386 scholars passed in Standard VII, 2,073 in Standard VI and 5,356 in Standard V.

Training schools.

13. There were 7 training schools for masters in which the number under instruction increased from 402 to 728. The number of training schools for mistresses increased by 1 to 12 while the attendance improved from 174 to 239. The increase is satisfactory as representing an effort to improve methods of instruction. The cost rose from Rs. 1,59,809 to Rs. 1,67,398.

Technical education.

14. The work of the College of Science has already been glanced at in paragraph 3. The attendance at the School of Art rose from 450 to 460 and at the Sind Engineering College from 17 to 21. Technical and industrial schools rose in number to 23, but the attendance fell from 1,967 to 1,809. Medical schools rose to 4 in number with an average daily attendance of 239. The number of pupils in the Veterinary College was purposely diminished to 117. Agricultural and commercial schools numbered 5 with an attendance of 201.

Female education.

15. The total number of girls in public institutions was 76,008 as against 77,208 in the previous year. There were, besides, 12,914 girls being educated in private institutions. Of those in public institutions 79 were undergoing collegiate, 5,035 secondary, and 70,612 primary, and 282 special education. In the previous year the number in primary schools was 72,058. There were 22,471 girls in boys' primary schools. The total expenditure on primary and secondary schools for girls was Rs. 8,65,073.

Europeans and Eurasians.

16. The total number of European and Eurasian pupils was 3,995, of whom 3,638 were educated in special schools, 1,442 were in the lower primary stage of instruction, 912 in the upper primary stage and 747 and 484 in the middle and high stages respectively. The figures show a small falling off as compared with those of the previous year. The expenditure from provincial funds was Rs. 88,017.

Mahomedans.

17. The number of Mahomedan pupils fell from 129,711 to 127,551. Of these, 91,473 were in public institutions, 87,570 being in primary schools and 3,152 in secondary schools. The number in the Arts and Professional Colleges rose from 85 to 101. Thirty-nine passed the Matriculation Examination and 203 the Public Service Certificate Examination. The figures in general show a distinct improvement on those of the previous year so far as the higher branches of education are concerned.

Aboriginal and hill tribes.

18. In all 11,989 pupils from aboriginal and hill tribes were under instruction. Of these 9,249 were in the Northern Division, where the number increased by 1,012 during the year. A special effort was made in the Mokháda Peta of Thána where 14 new schools were opened under Koli and Marátha teachers. In Surat a special boarding school was opened to train teachers from among the boys of the Káliparaj class. Similar efforts are being made in the Central and Southern Divisions.

Depressed classes.

19 In the Central Division the number of pupils of depressed classes rose from 5,612 to 6,429. The great majority are in primary schools, but there were 142 in secondary, 13 in Training and 22 in Industrial schools. In the Northern Division the number rose from 2,981 to 4,487, while the number in secondary schools rose from 5 to 149. There was an increase in the Southern Division from 1,561 to 1,868 and in Sind from 126 to 231. Much of this increase is explained by more accurate registration. Special schools for depressed classes are provided in all divisions.

Special classes.

20. The number of Kumárs on the rolls of the Rájkumár College rose from 38 to 42. Two more boys from the Deccan joined during the year as well as five from elsewhere. A new curriculum is being introduced and the staff strengthened. The Gondal Girassia College had 83 pupils on the rolls as against 69 in previous year. The tálukadári schools at Wadhwán and Vajiria made satisfactory progress; as did also the Scott College at Sádra.

Effect of plague on education.

21. The moral and material damage done by plague to education was incalculable. On March 31st, 1904, the date to which the figures given in this summary refer, 1,093 schools with 71,206 pupils were closed on account of plague. In the figures of the previous years, 40,000 pupils were not counted for the same reason. If these pupils were counted in both cases, the figures would show a slight increase in attendance. Reported deaths from plague among teachers were 333 and among pupils 7,404.

Yerávda Reformatory School.

Numbers. 1. On December 31st, 1903, there were 140 boys in the Yerávda Reformatory School as against 120 on December 31st, 1902, but the average daily number during the year under report was 124 against 125 in the previous year. Forty-one boys were admitted during the year and 21 discharged. Of the latter 14 were released on expiry of sentence, and 6 on account of having attained the age of 18 years. Of those admitted 34 were convicted of theft and similar offences. The larger number of admissions was rendered possible by the completion of the new dormitory. The experiment of extending the dormitory system and to a great extent doing away with the cells is being tried.

Conduct. 2. The conduct of the boys was good. Offences numbered 17 as in the previous year, and of these 6 were committed by one boy. The conduct of boys who were discharged in this and in previous years appears, as far as information is available, to have improved considerably.

General. 3. Arrangements for licensing boys to private employers have been made. Admissions into hospital numbered 38 against 109 in the previous year. There was no death or serious illness among the inmates. The net profit from agriculture and industries rose from Rs. 730 to Rs. 941. Maintenance charges rose from Rs. 15,724 to Rs. 16,025. The cost of the institution to Government was Rs. 14,612.

2. Literature and the Press.

1.—Books and Periodicals.

The number of registered publications was 1,273 against 1,334 in the previous year. Of these 692 were books and 581 issues of periodicals. Of the 692 books 66 were written in English, 254 in Gujaráti, 127 in Maráthi, 42 in Hindi and 30 in Sindhi, while 97 were bilingual or trilingual publications. Among English publications the most noticeable is a poem in blank verse "Meleager in Cos." Among vernacular works the only work which rises sufficiently above the dead level of mediocrity to deserve mention is a collection of poems in Gujaráti by Mr. Nánálál Dalpatrám Kavi.

2.—Newspapers.

General. 1. At the end of the year 1903 there were in all 161 newspapers and 6 periodicals or 13 more than at the end of the previous year. Of the total 27 per cent. were published in the City of Bombay and 26 per cent. in the Central Division, while the rest were distributed over the other Divisions and Native States. As to the languages used, 36 per cent. were published in Maráthi and 15 per cent. in Gujaráti. Seventy-seven of the editors were Bráhmans and 21 Pársis. The variations in circulation were not very important: that of the *Keral Kokil*, the *Sánj Vartamán*, the *Kál*, the *Kesari*, the *Karmanuk* and the *Praja Bandhu* rose during the year.

General tone of the Native press. 2. Setting aside those Maráthi newspapers, whose hostility to the existing order of things makes them incapable of impartial criticism, the tone of the Native Press was quieter than in past years and displayed a growing tendency to attempt to judge fairly of events on their merits.

References to particular events. 3. Lord Curzon's administration and public speeches were discussed with never failing interest and were generally viewed with approval by the more sober section of the Press. Many regrets were expressed at the departure of Lord Northcote to Australia and it was observed that Bombay had not been governed for a long time past by "a Proconsul who felt so intensely for the people, entered so much into their feelings and won so largely their confidence." The appointment of Sir James Monteath to act as Governor was received with satisfaction and great hopes were expressed of Lord Lamington's administration. The Government of India's Resolution on certain important recommendations of the Famine Commission was on the whole regarded with satisfaction, while the Resolution of the Bombay Government sanctioning uniform suspensions of revenue over areas of general crop failure was welcomed as inaugurating a departure from the principle of individual enquiry. The tone as to the plague policy of Government was much milder than in former years, the papers contenting themselves with criticisms of the alleged laxity of various municipal authorities. The work of the Police Commission was discussed with interest. The report of the Irrigation Commission was hailed with approval only qualified by a regret that the Commissioners considered the scope for the extension of irrigation works in the Bombay Presidency to be extremely limited owing to financial considerations. The Budget announcement regarding the reduction of the duty on salt by 8 annas per maund and the raising of the minimum limit of taxable income to Rs. 1,000 was universally approved, as was also the protest wired by Lord Curzon against the proposal of Mr. Brodrick to throw upon India a portion of the cost of maintaining a British garrison in South Africa. There was some complaint of alleged indifference on the part of Government to Mr. Tata's scheme for a Research Institute in India. The *personnel* and objects of the Vernacular Text-Books Committee came in for some criticism: but the increase in the Government grants for primary education was generally approved. Of the legislative measures introduced during the year the Ancient Monuments Bill and the Agricultural Banks Bill were on the whole approved, while the Official Secrets Bill and the Indian Universities Bill evoked acrimonious criticism. A subject which was the occasion of frequent complaint in the Native Press was the disabilities of Indians in South Africa.

Literary Societies.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1901-1902, PART II, PAGES 172—173.

3. Arts and Sciences.

The Victoria and Albert Museum.

1. The number of visitors to the Victoria and Albert Museum fell from 815,936 to 743,323. One of the reasons for this was that part of the building had to be closed owing to the need for repairs. The daily average number of visitors was 2,382. Some progress was made in the arrangement of specimens and a few new specimens were acquired. The cost of the Museum rose from Rs. 7,644 to Rs. 9,669.

Victoria Museum, Karáchi.

2. The number of visitors fell from 52,407 to 36,709. This was possibly due to the prevalence of plague in Karáchi. Receipts amounted to Rs. 1,301 as in the previous year. Expenditure rose from Rs. 1,190 to Rs. 1,283.

CHAPTER VIII—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Archæological Survey of Western India.

The Superintendent practically confined his tour to Central India and Rájputána. A good deal of conservation work was, however, carried out in the Presidency. The most important work of restoration was that of the Gol Gambaz or tomb of Mahmud 'Adil Shah at Bijápur. Rs. 2,521 were spent in repairs to the Ibrahim Rauza at the same place. Rs. 3,765 were spent in repairs to Sidi Basir's mosque and tomb near the railway station at Ahmedabad. Altogether out of Imperial and Provincial grants aggregating Rs. 3[illegible],878, a sum of Rs. 33,507 was spent in conservation works in various districts of the Presidency. Some progress was made in the arrangement of the museum at Poona.

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CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS

1. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

For—
ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

See—
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1901-1902, PART II. PAGES 175—177.

1.—ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Establishment.

1. During the year the permanent strength of the Bombay Ecclesiastical Establishment was increased by the addition of two Chaplains, making a total of 27 in all. In addition to these, eight Clergymen were in receipt of salaries from Government.

Buildings and general.

2. There were 61 churches or buildings regularly used for worship, of which 50 were consecrated. No church was consecrated during the year. Additional ground for the cemeteries at Ahmednagar and Gadag was consecrated. There was one ordination.

2.—ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

1. There were five Chaplains of the Church of Scotland on the establishment.

2. They conducted services regularly at seven stations in Government Churches and at three other stations in Churches belonging to various Missionary Societies. Occasional services for the troops were held at three other stations.

2. Stationery.

The value of stock in hand at the beginning of the year was Rs. 3,33,903. Purchases in England amounted to Rs. 1,26,997 and in India to Rs. 3,94,832, making a total, including the opening balance of stock, worth Rs. 8,55,732. Issues were made to the value of Rs. 6,09,384, leaving a balance of stores worth Rs. 2,46,348. Both issues and receipts are smaller than in the previous year.

3. General Miscellaneous.

1.—GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

The gross earnings of the Government Central Press, inclusive of those of the type-foundry attached to it, amounted to Rs. 4,47,975, while the expenditure, including wear and tear of plant, and a book charge of Rs. 17,000 for the rent of Press Building, amounted to Rs. 3,47,911. There was thus a net profit to Government of Rs. 1,00,064, as against one of Rs. 68,669 in the previous year. The earnings increased by Rs. 11,263 and the expenditure decreased by Rs 20,131. The increase in the earnings is due to the printing of the Famine Report and other work and the decrease in the expenditure to less work done for Government Gazettes and Resolutions and to the lessening of Railway and forwarding charges by the transfer of certain Stock Forms to Yerávda.

2.—GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESS, KARA'CHI.

The gross earnings were Rs. 59,044 and the expenditure Rs. 39,554, the profits thus amounting to Rs. 19,490 or Rs 8,389 more than in the previous year. The chief items showing increases were English and Vernacular forms and books.

3.—GOVERNMENT PHOTOZINCOGRAPHIC OFFICE, POONA.

The total value of the work done by the office fell from Rs. 1,14,297 to Rs. 93,767. Expenditure also fell from Rs. 79,152 to Rs. 69,263. The balance in favour of the office was Rs. 24,503 against Rs. 35,144 in the previous year. Maps and plans of districts, tálukas and villages and of a miscellaneous nature were printed as usual. The book value of the official unpaid work fell from Rs. 95,901 to Rs. 63 003, while the paid work realised Rs. 25,474 or nearly twice as much as in the previous year.